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Co-Sponsored by:
Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Spearman, Assemblywoman Matsikoudis, Assemblymen Umba, Atkins, Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman Wimberly, Senators Diegnan and Pou

SYNOPSIS
Permits State Board of Education to authorize alternative teaching certificate.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on February 23, 2023, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/20/2023)
AN ACT concerning teacher certification and supplementing chapter
26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
of New Jersey:

4[1. a. The State Board of Education shall authorize the issuance
of an alternative certificate of eligibility with advanced standing to a
teacher candidate who meets all other eligibility requirements for a
certificate of eligibility with advanced standing, except 1 for the
requirement to achieve a minimum passing score on an appropriate
State test of subject matter knowledge and all other alternative
requirements or exceptions to achieving a passing score on an
appropriate State test of subject matter knowledge.
b. The holder of an alternative certificate authorized pursuant to
subsection a. of this section shall be eligible to receive a standard
certificate from the State Board of Education upon completion of four
years of continuous employment as a teacher in 1 the State’s public
schools]; a school district, charter school, renaissance school project,
or an approved private school for students with disabilities, provided
that the teacher completes all applicable requirements for the standard
certificate.]4

4[2. a. The State Board of Education shall authorize the
issuance of an alternative certificate of eligibility to a teacher
candidate who meets all other eligibility requirements to receive a
certificate of eligibility, except 1 for the requirement to achieve a
minimum score on a Commissioner of Education-approved test of
basic reading, writing, and mathematical skills and all other alternative
basic skills requirements or exceptions 1; or the requirement to
achieve a minimum passing score on an appropriate State test of
subject matter knowledge and all other alternative requirements or
exceptions to achieving a passing score on an appropriate State test of
subject matter knowledge].4

b. The holder of an alternative certificate authorized pursuant to
subsection a. of this section shall be eligible to receive a standard
certificate from the State Board of Education upon completion of four
years of continuous employment as a teacher in 1 the State’s public
schools]; a school district, charter school, renaissance school project,
or an approved private school for students with disabilities, provided that
the teacher completes all applicable requirements for the standard
certificate.

4[3. A teaching staff member issued a certificate pursuant
to section 1 or 2 of this act shall not be required to meet any

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets 1thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
5Senate SED committee amendments adopted May 9, 2022.
6Senate floor amendments adopted June 16, 2022.
7Assembly AED committee amendments adopted February 9, 2023.
8Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted February 23, 2023.
additional qualifications towards the acquisition of tenure other than those specified by law for all candidates for tenure. Employment accrued using an alternative certificate of eligibility [or an alternative certificate of eligibility with advanced standing] shall be applied in the same manner towards eligibility for tenure as employment accrued using a certificate of eligibility [or certificate of eligibility with advanced standing].

4. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.). Within 30 days after the effective date of this act, and notwithstanding the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.) to the contrary, the State Board of Education shall, immediately upon filing proper notice with the Office of Administrative Law, adopt rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act. The rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this section shall expire five years after the effective date of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately and the State Board of Education shall cease to authorize the issuance of alternative certificates five years after the effective date of this act.