

**SENATE, No. 3884**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2023

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Diegnan, Stanfield and Burgess**

**SYNOPSIS**

Removes obstacles to teacher certification for certain teachers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)**

1 AN ACT concerning teacher certification and supplementing chapter  
2 26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

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7 1. a. As used in this act:

8 “Certificate of eligibility” means a certificate with lifetime  
9 validity issued by the State Board of Examiners to candidates who  
10 meet degree, academic, and applicable test requirements for teacher  
11 certification.

12 “Certificate of eligibility with advanced standing” means a  
13 certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State Board of  
14 Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and test  
15 requirements for teacher certification and complete an educator  
16 preparation program.

17 “Provisional certificate” means a certificate issued by the State  
18 Board of Examiners to candidates who hold either a certificate of  
19 eligibility or a certificate of eligibility with advanced standing and  
20 are employed as part of a State-approved district training program  
21 or residency leading to standard certification.

22 “Standard instructional certificate” means a permanent certificate  
23 issued to a person who has met all teacher certification  
24 requirements.

25 b. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary,  
26 the State Board of Education shall not require a candidate seeking a  
27 certificate of eligibility, a certificate of eligibility with advanced  
28 standing, a provisional certificate, or a standard instructional  
29 certificate to complete a Commissioner of Education-approved test  
30 of basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills including, but not  
31 limited to, the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test, in  
32 order to obtain a certificate of eligibility, a certificate of eligibility  
33 with advanced standing, a provisional certificate, or a standard  
34 instructional certificate.

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36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill eliminates the requirement that a teacher candidate  
42 complete a basic skills test. Specifically, this bill eliminates the  
43 requirement that a candidate seeking a certificate of eligibility, a  
44 certificate of eligibility with advanced standing, a provisional  
45 certificate, or a standard instructional certificate complete a  
46 Commissioner of Education-approved test of basic reading, writing,  
47 and mathematics skills, including, but not limited to, the Praxis  
48 Core Academic Skills for Educators test, in order to obtain any of  
49 these certificates.