

SENATE, No. 3172

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 3, 2022

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes teacher certification route for candidates with Montessori teaching credentials.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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

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

11 b. The State Board of Education shall authorize a route to
12 teacher certification for candidates who possess a Montessori
13 teaching credential. To be eligible for this route to teacher
14 certification, a candidate shall:

15 (1) hold a Montessori teaching credential issued by the American
16 Montessori Society, the Association Montessori Internationale, or
17 an institution accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council
18 for Teacher Education;

19 (2) hold a bachelor's degree in any field from an accredited
20 institution of higher education; and

21 (3) meet the applicable test requirements for a certificate of
22 eligibility.

23 c. The State Board of Examiners shall issue a certificate of
24 eligibility to a candidate who meets the criteria established pursuant
25 to this section. A candidate eligible for a certificate of eligibility
26 pursuant to this act shall not be required to complete a State
27 approved educator preparation program.

28 d. The State Board of Education shall promulgate regulations
29 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
30 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to effectuate the provisions of this
31 section.

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill requires the State Board of Education to authorize a
39 route to teacher certification for candidates who possess a
40 Montessori teaching credential. To be eligible for this route to
41 teacher certification, a candidate must, at minimum:

42 (1) hold a Montessori teaching credential issued by the American
43 Montessori Society, the Association Montessori Internationale, or
44 an institution accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council
45 for Teacher Education;

46 (2) hold a bachelor's degree in any field from an accredited
47 institution of higher education; and

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1 (3) meet the applicable test requirements for a certificate of
2 eligibility.

3 Candidates who meet the requirements for eligibility set forth in
4 this bill will not be required to complete a State approved educator
5 preparation program prior to certification.

6 Also under the bill, upon completion of the certification
7 requirements, a candidate will be issued a certificate of eligibility
8 by the Board of Examiners. This bill defines "certificate of
9 eligibility" as a certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State
10 Board of Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and
11 applicable test requirements for teacher certification.