

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

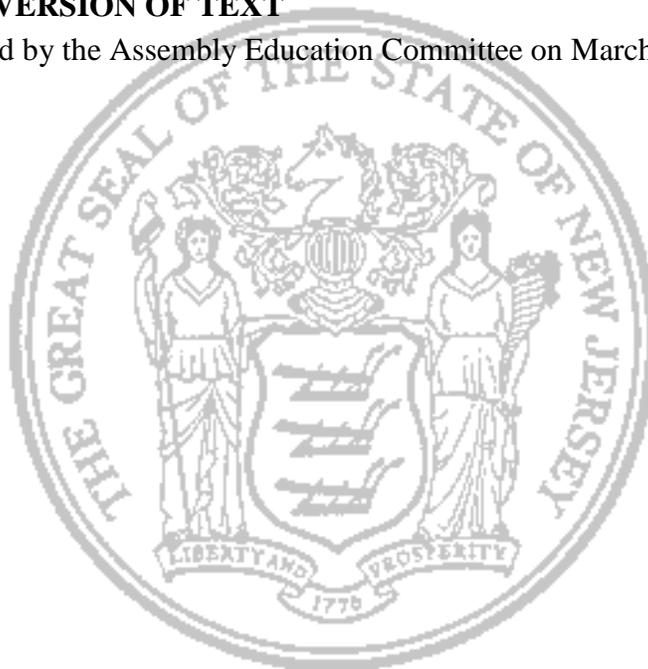
Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle and Assemblyman McKeon

SYNOPSIS

Allows student enrolled in institution of higher education who has completed 30 semester-hour credits to serve as substitute teacher; extends time period substitute teacher may serve during public health emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on March 17, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/25/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning substitute teachers ¹, amending P.L.2010, c.97
2 and P.L.2010, c.100,¹ and supplementing chapter 26 of Title
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7
8 1. ¹a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
9 contrary, a candidate for a substitute teacher credential who is
10 enrolled in a regionally accredited institution of higher education
11 ¹and who is applying between the effective date of this act and June
12 30, 2023¹ shall present a minimum of 30 semester-hour credits
13 completed at the institution at the time of applying for the substitute
14 credential. ¹A candidate applying for a substitute teacher credential
15 under this section shall be at least 20 years of age. Nothing in this
16 section shall be construed to restrict school districts from
17 establishing additional criteria for the employment of substitute
18 teachers under this section.

19 b. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Education to
20 examine issues and develop recommendations as to whether the
21 timeline established pursuant to subsection a. of this section should
22 be extended to continue allowing candidates for substitute teaching
23 credentials to present a minimum of 30 semester-hour credits
24 completed at the time of applying for the substitute credential. The
25 commissioner shall issue a final report of findings and
26 recommendations to the Governor, to the Legislature pursuant to
27 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), and to the State Board
28 of Education no later than one year after the application period
29 expires on June 30, 2023.¹

30
31 ¹2. Section 1 of P.L.2010, c.97 (C.18A:16-1.1a) is amended to
32 read as follows:

33 1. A vacant teaching position, or the position of a teacher who
34 is absent for an extended time period, shall not be filled in any
35 school year by one or more individuals holding a substitute
36 credential issued by the State Board of Education pursuant to the
37 provisions of N.J.S.18A:6-38 for a total amount of time exceeding
38 20 school days. The commissioner may grant an extension of up to
39 an additional 20 school days upon written application from the
40 school district demonstrating the district's inability to hire an
41 appropriately certified teacher for the vacant position within the
42 original 20-day time limit. During a public health emergency
43 declared by the Governor pursuant to the "Emergency Health
44 Powers Act," P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), a vacant or

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** 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:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted March 17, 2021.

1 absent position may be filled by a holder of a substitute credential
2 for up to 40 school days and for an additional 20 school days upon
3 written application to the Commissioner of Education or the
4 commissioner's designee, demonstrating the district's inability to
5 hire an appropriately certified teacher within the 40-day time limit
6 and that the individuals are periodically monitored and supported by
7 the credential holder's supervisor.¹

8 (cf: P.L.2010, c.97, s.1)

9

10 ¹3. Section 2 of P.L.2010, c.100 (C.18A:16-1.1c) is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 2. A vacant teaching position, or the position of a teacher who
13 is absent for an extended time period, shall not be filled in any
14 school year by one or more individuals employed as substitute
15 teachers and holding a certificate of eligibility or a certificate of
16 eligibility with advanced standing issued by the State Board of
17 Examiners and working in an area not authorized by their
18 credentials for a total amount of time exceeding 20 school days.
19 The executive county superintendent of schools may grant an
20 extension of up to an additional 20 days upon written application
21 from the school district demonstrating the district's inability to hire
22 an appropriately certified teacher for the vacant position within the
23 original 20-day time limit. During a public health emergency
24 declared by the Governor pursuant to the "Emergency Health
25 Powers Act," P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), a vacant or
26 absent position may be filled by a holder of a certificate of
27 eligibility or a certificate of eligibility with advanced standing and
28 working in an area not authorized by their credentials for up to 40
29 school days and for an additional 20 school days upon written
30 application to the Commissioner of Education or the
31 commissioner's designee demonstrating the district's inability to
32 hire an appropriately certified teacher within the 40-day time limit
33 and that the individuals are periodically monitored and supported by
34 the credential holder's supervisor.¹

35 (cf: P.L.2010, c.100, s.2)

36

37 ¹[2.] 4.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.