## ASSEMBLY, No. 480

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

#### **Sponsored by:**

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY
District 7 (Burlington)
Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)
Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER
District 28 (Essex)

#### **Co-Sponsored by:**

Assemblymen Sauickie, Scharfenberger, Wirths, Space, Assemblywomen Eulner, Piperno and Lopez

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Extends validity of temporary instructional certificate issued to military spouse to one year; requires expedited processing of application by military spouse for NJ instructional certificate and reduced fees for military spouse to obtain certificate.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/15/2022)

**AN ACT** concerning teacher certification for military spouses and amending and supplementing P.L.2013, c.68.

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

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.68 (C.18A:26-2.14) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. As used in this section, "nonresident military spouse" means a person (1) whose spouse is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is the subject of a military transfer to New Jersey, and (2) who has left employment in another state to accompany such spouse to New Jersey.
- b. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the State Board of Education shall establish a procedure for the issuance of a temporary instructional certificate to a nonresident military spouse that authorizes a board of education to employ the nonresident military spouse as a teacher if, at the time of application, the nonresident military spouse:
- (1) Holds a valid and current license or certificate to teach issued by another state for which there is an equivalent and currently-issued New Jersey grade level or subject endorsement;
- (2) Demonstrates competency in teaching in a manner determined by the State Board of Examiners, such as having taught successfully under the out-of-State license or certificate for at least three years, as documented by a letter of experience from a past supervisor or authorized district representative; having met the New Jersey grade point average requirement for an instructional certificate under State Board of Education regulations; or having completed continuing education units; and
- (3) Pays any applicable fees required by the State Board of Examiners , which fees shall not exceed \$100.
- c. A temporary instructional certificate issued under this section shall be valid for [180] 365 days and may be extended at the discretion of the State Board of Examiners for another [180] 365 days on application of the holder of the temporary instructional certificate. The temporary instructional certificate shall authorize the nonresident military spouse to be employed as a teacher by a board of education on a temporary basis while completing any specific additional requirements for an instructional certificate in New Jersey that were not required in the other state in which the nonresident military spouse holds a license or certificate to teach.
- d. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a nonresident military spouse from obtaining a New Jersey certificate of eligibility, certificate of eligibility with advanced standing, 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.

#### A480 MURPHY, BENSON

standard certificate under State Board of Education regulations, including the regulation for interstate reciprocity.

- e. The State Board of Education shall promulgate regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to effectuate the provisions of this section.
- (cf: P.L.2013, c.68, s.1)

2. (New section) The Department of Education shall establish procedures to expedite the processing of an application submitted by a nonresident military spouse, as defined in subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2013, c.68 (C.18A:26-2.14), for a New Jersey instructional certificate. The Department of Education and the State Board of Examiners shall establish a reduced fee schedule for the issuance of an instructional certificate to a nonresident military spouse. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the issuance of an instructional certificate to a nonresident military spouse who has not met the applicable State requirements for the certificate.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.