

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1669

with Senate Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Senator BEACH)

ADOPTED: MAY 13, 2024

These Senate floor amendments provide that the State Board of Education is not to require a candidate seeking any instructional certificate, except in the case of a limited certificate of eligibility or a limited certificate of eligibility with advanced standing to complete a Commissioner of Education-approved test of basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills including the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test, in order to obtain an instructional certificate.

These floor amendments also provide that the State Board of Education is to be prohibited from requiring a commissioner-approved educator preparation program to require the completion of a commissioner-approved test of basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills including the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test, as a condition for admission.

Finally, these amendments repeal P.L.2023, c.180, which permits a teacher candidate who meets all criteria for a certificate of eligibility, other than the requirement to meet certain minimum testing thresholds in the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test, receive an alternative certificate of eligibility. Upon completion of four years of continuous employment using an alternative certificate, the teacher is eligible to receive a standard certificate.

These amendments make this bill identical to Senate Bill No. 1287, also amended by the Senate on this same date.