

SENATE, No. 4074

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman LINDA S. CARTER

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

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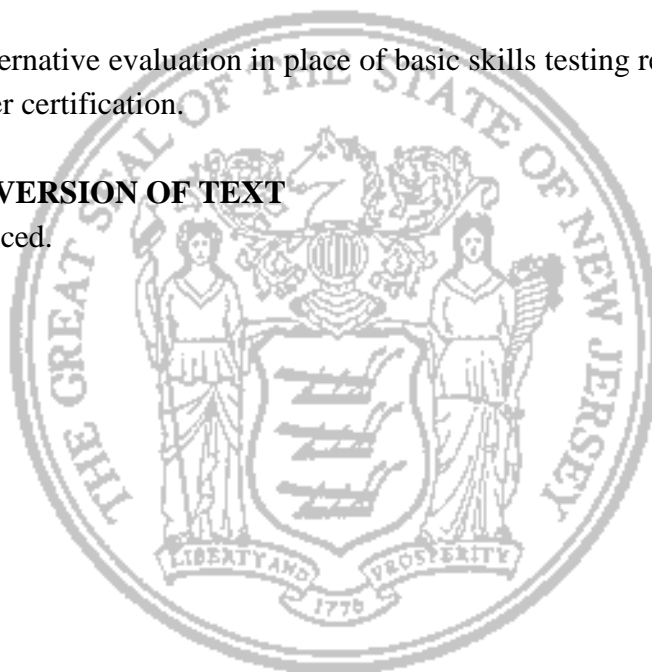
**Senators Turner, Gopal, Pou, Assemblywomen Jasey, Reynolds-Jackson
and Assemblyman Freiman**

SYNOPSIS

Allows alternative evaluation in place of basic skills testing requirements for certain teacher certification.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/20/2021)

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. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
8 contrary, the State Board of Education shall not require a candidate
9 for or the holder of a certificate of eligibility in a career and
10 technical education endorsement or a certificate of eligibility with
11 advance standing in a career and technical education endorsement
12 to complete a Commissioner-approved test of basic reading,
13 writing, and mathematics skills in order to obtain a standard
14 certificate, including, but not limited to, the Praxis Core Academic
15 Skills for Educators test, if the candidate can demonstrate
16 proficiency in the use of English language and mathematics
17 through an alternate measure.

18 b. As used in this section:

19 “Alternate measure” means any demonstration of basic skills
20 proficiency, other than a test, that is approved by the Department of
21 Education, including, but not limited to: a portfolio of work
22 products as approved by the superintendent of a candidate’s
23 employing school district; obtainment of an occupational license or
24 certification; or an industry certificate or registration.

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

29 “Certificate of eligibility with advanced standing” means a
30 certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State Board of
31 Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and test
32 requirements for teacher certification and complete an educator
33 preparation program.

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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40 This bill eliminates the requirement to pass a basic skills test as a
41 condition of eligibility for a standard instructional certificate in a
42 career and technical education (CTE) endorsement. Under this bill,
43 provisional CTE teacher candidates will be permitted to
44 demonstrate basic skills proficiency through an alternate measure
45 approved by the Department of Education, instead of taking the
46 basic skills test.

47 Under current State Board of Education regulations, a
48 provisional CTE teacher candidate seeking a standard instructional

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1 certificate in a career and technical education endorsement is
2 required to demonstrate basic skills proficiency; the Department of
3 Education currently uses the Praxis Core Academic Skills for
4 Educators test as the sole measure of basic skills proficiency.
5 Candidates for a certificate of eligibility with advanced standing
6 (CEAS), prior to their admission into a CEAS educator preparation
7 program, are generally required to demonstrate basic skills
8 proficiency through the achievement of a minimum score on a
9 Commissioner-approved test of basic reading, writing, and
10 mathematics. Alternatively, candidates for a CEAS may meet the
11 basic skills testing requirement by demonstrating a score on the
12 SAT, ACT, or GRE at or above the cut score for the year in which
13 the exam was taken.

14 This bill allows all CE and CEAS candidates in a CTE
15 endorsement to obtain a CE, CEAS, or a standard instructional
16 certificate through alternate measures instead of completing the
17 basic skills test. The bill defines “alternate measure” as any
18 demonstration of basic skills proficiency, other than a test, that is
19 approved by the Department of Education, including, but not
20 limited to: work product portfolios; obtainment of an occupational
21 license or certification; or an industry certificate or registration.