



General Assembly

Amendment

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Offered by:

REP. BEALS, 88th Dist.

REP. NAFIS, 27th Dist.

REP. BLACKWELL, 12th Dist.

REP. STAPLES, 96th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5496

File No. 361

Cal. No. 229

"AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION."

1 After the last section, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 8. Subsection (k) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4 *1, 2002*):

5 (k) (1) Unless otherwise provided in regulations adopted under
6 section 10-145d, in not less than three years nor more than eight years
7 after the issuance of a provisional educator certificate pursuant to
8 subsection (g) of this section and upon the statement of the
9 superintendent in whose school district such certificate holder was
10 employed, or the superintendent of a nonpublic school approved by
11 the State Board of Education, in whose school such certificate holder
12 was employed, that the provisional educator certificate holder and
13 such superintendent have mutually determined or approved an

14 individual program pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (j) of this
15 section and upon the statement of such superintendent that such
16 certificate holder has a record of competency in the discharge of his or
17 her duties during such provisional period, the state board upon receipt
18 of a proper application shall issue such certificate holder a professional
19 educator certificate. A signed recommendation from the
20 superintendent of schools for the local or regional board of education
21 or from the superintendent of a nonpublic school approved by the
22 State Board of Education shall be evidence of competency. Such
23 recommendation shall state that the person who holds or has held a
24 provisional educator certificate has successfully completed at least
25 three school years of satisfactory teaching for one or more local or
26 regional boards of education or such nonpublic schools. Each applicant
27 for a certificate pursuant to this subsection shall provide to the
28 Department of Education, in such manner and form as prescribed by
29 the commissioner, evidence that the applicant has successfully
30 completed coursework pursuant to subsection (h) or (j) of this section,
31 as appropriate.

32 (2) Upon application, a teacher from another state who has taught in
33 such other state for a minimum of five years and is nationally board
34 certified shall be issued a professional educator certificate with the
35 appropriate endorsement, subject to the provisions of subsection (m) of
36 this section relating to denial of applications for certification.

37 Sec. 9. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-183e of the general
38 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
39 (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

40 (b) Any member may purchase, as provided in subsection (c) of this
41 section, additional credited service, but [not to exceed an aggregate of
42 one year in the case of service described in subdivision (2) of this
43 subsection for each two years of active full-time service as a
44 Connecticut teacher; and] not to exceed an aggregate of one year in the
45 case of absence described in subdivision (8) of this subsection for each
46 five years of active full-time service as a Connecticut teacher, provided

47 if any such absence exceeds thirty consecutive school months, such
48 additional credited service shall be limited to thirty school months;
49 and not to exceed an aggregate of ten years for all service described in
50 this subsection, except for service described in subdivision (2) of this
51 subsection. In no event [, however,] may any service described in this
52 subsection be purchased if the member is receiving or is, or will
53 become, entitled to receive a retirement benefit based upon such
54 service from any governmental system other than the teachers'
55 retirement system or the federal Social Security System. Additional
56 credited service includes:

57 (1) Service as a teacher in a school for military dependents
58 established by the United States Department of Defense;

59 (2) Service as a teacher in another state of the United States, its
60 territories or possessions;

61 (3) Service in the armed forces of the United States in time of war, as
62 defined in section 27-103, or service in said armed forces during the
63 period beginning October 27, 1953, and ending January 31, 1955;

64 (4) Service in a permanent full-time position for the state;

65 (5) Service as a teacher at The University of Connecticut prior to July
66 1, 1965;

67 (6) Service as a teacher at the Wheeler School and Library, North
68 Stonington, prior to September 1, 1949;

69 (7) Service as a teacher at the Gilbert Home, Winsted, prior to
70 September 1, 1948;

71 (8) Any formal leave of absence as provided in regulations adopted
72 by the board, if the member subsequently returns to service for at least
73 one school year;

74 (9) Service as a teacher at the American School at Hartford for the
75 Deaf, the Connecticut Institute for the Blind or the Newington

76 Children's Hospital;

77 (10) Forty or more days of service as a substitute teacher, or the
78 equivalent service rendered at less than half-time, in a single public
79 school system within the state of Connecticut in any school year,
80 provided twenty days of such service shall equal one month of
81 credited service under subsection (a) of this section;

82 (11) Service in the armed forces of the United States, other than
83 service described in subdivision (3) of this subsection, not to exceed
84 thirty months;

85 (12) Service as a full-time, salaried, elected official of the state or any
86 political subdivision of the state during the 1978 calendar year or
87 thereafter, if such member subsequently returns to service for at least
88 one school year;

89 (13) Service in the public schools of Connecticut as a member of the
90 federal Teacher Corps, not to exceed two years; and

91 (14) Service in the United States Peace Corps.

92 (c) Additional credited service must be purchased (1) at the time of
93 retirement, or (2) at the time a surviving spouse elects benefits under
94 the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-183h, or (3) at the time
95 benefits commence under an optional payment form pursuant to
96 section 10-183j. Any purchase of service shall be accomplished by the
97 member paying to the board an amount equal to one-half of the
98 actuarial present value or, in the case of the purchase of service
99 described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section in excess of
100 ten years, the full actuarial present value, determined according to
101 actuarial tables adopted by the board, of the difference between the
102 retirement benefit which the member is entitled to receive based upon
103 his or her service apart from such purchased service and the benefit
104 which he or she is entitled to receive including such service. Payments
105 for additional credited service may be made in a lump sum by transfer
106 of funds from the member's accumulated one per cent contributions

107 withheld prior to July 1, 1989, with credited interest and accumulated
108 voluntary contributions with credited interest plus such other amounts
109 as may be required to complete the purchase.

110 Sec. 10. Section 10-183v of the general statutes is repealed and the
111 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

112 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a former
113 teacher receiving retirement benefits from the system may not be
114 employed in a teaching position receiving compensation paid out of
115 public money appropriated for school purposes except that such
116 former teacher may be employed temporarily in such a position and
117 receive no more than forty-five per cent of the [entry-level salary]
118 maximum salary level for the assigned subject area for such
119 compensation. Any former teacher who receives in excess of such
120 amount shall reimburse the board for the amount of such excess.
121 Temporary employment means employment for less than a school
122 year. Notice of such employment shall be sent [monthly] semi-
123 annually on January thirty-first and June thirtieth to the board by the
124 employing officials and by the retired teacher at the end of each
125 assignment.

126 (b) A former teacher receiving retirement benefits from the system
127 may be reemployed by a local board of education or by any constituent
128 unit of the state system of higher education [if such employment is
129 authorized by the Teachers' Retirement Board upon certification to
130 such board that such reemployment is in the best interests of the local
131 or regional school system. Such certification shall be made by the local
132 or regional board of education, if the employer is to be a local or
133 regional board of education, or the Board of Governors of Higher
134 Education, if the employer is to be a constituent unit of the state
135 system of higher education] in a position designated by the
136 Commissioner of Education as a subject shortage area for the school
137 year in which the former teacher is being employed or in such other
138 positions as may be deemed necessary by the commissioner. Such
139 employment with any one board of education may be for up to one full

140 school year but may, with prior approval by the Teachers' Retirement
141 Board, be extended for an additional school year. Such request for
142 approval shall be made in writing to the Teachers' Retirement Board
143 prior to the reemployment of such former teacher and shall include a
144 statement indicating the type of assignment to be performed, the
145 anticipated date of rehire and the expected duration of the assignment.

146 (c) The employment of a former teacher under subsection (b) of this
147 section shall not be considered as service qualifying for continuing
148 contract status under section 10-151 and the salary of such teacher shall
149 be fixed at an amount at least equal to that paid other teachers in the
150 same school system with similar training and experience for the same
151 type of service. Upon approval by the board of such employment, such
152 former teacher shall be eligible for the same health insurance benefits
153 provided to active teachers employed by such school system. No
154 benefits shall be paid in under section 10-183t while such former
155 teacher is employed by such system.

156 (d) No person shall be entitled to survivor's benefits under
157 subsection (f) of section 10-183f as a result of reemployment under this
158 section.

159 [(e) Retirement benefits to a former teacher reemployed under
160 subsection (b) of this section shall terminate on the first day of the
161 month of such reemployment. Retirement benefits shall resume on the
162 first day of the month after reemployment ceases.]

163 [(f)] (e) The same option plan of retirement benefits in effect prior to
164 reemployment shall continue for a reemployed teacher during
165 reemployment. [and upon subsequent retirement.]

166 [(g) Any former teacher reemployed under subsection (b) of this
167 section may elect upon completion of not less than six months
168 continuous service to make contributions to the system from such date.
169 The employer of such electing reemployed teacher shall thereafter treat
170 such teacher with respect to the system in the same manner as any
171 other member of the system except that such employer shall deduct

172 only six-sevenths of the amount that would be deducted from the
173 salaries of other members.

174 (h) Any reemployed teacher electing to make contributions to the
175 system under subsection (g) of this section may also elect to obtain
176 retirement credit for service during the period from the beginning of
177 reemployment to the date of such election by contributing to the
178 system within six months of the date on which such teacher makes
179 such election under said subsection (g), six per cent of the salary paid
180 such teacher during such period together with credited interest from
181 the time such salary was paid until such contribution is made to the
182 system.

183 (i) Upon the subsequent retirement of an electing reemployed
184 teacher, the retirement benefits payable to such retired teacher shall be
185 increased by triple the amount that would be payable based solely
186 upon contributions of such teacher made during the period of
187 reemployment plus credited interest thereon.]

188 (f) The provisions of this section in effect on June 30, 2002, revision
189 of 1958, revised to January 1, 2001, shall be applicable to any person
190 making contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System on June 30,
191 2002, in accordance with said provisions.

192 Sec. 11. Subsection (d) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is
193 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
194 *1, 2002*):

195 (d) Any person who is first issued a certificate valid after July 1,
196 1989, or who is reissued a certificate after July 1, 1989, shall, except as
197 otherwise provided in this subsection, be required to achieve a
198 satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
199 assessment within two years after commencing [teaching in a public
200 school] participation in the beginning educator support and training
201 program in order to retain the certificate. The commissioner (1) may
202 waive the requirement that such satisfactory evaluation on a
203 professional knowledge clinical assessment be achieved upon a

204 determination that such assessment is not valid for the person's
205 teaching assignment, or (2) upon a showing of good cause, may extend
206 the time limit for the assessment [by one year] for a period of time not
207 exceeding two years. The requirement of a clinical assessment shall not
208 apply to any such person who has completed at least three years of
209 successful teaching in a public school or a nonpublic school approved
210 by the appropriate state board of education during the ten years
211 immediately preceding the date of application or who successfully
212 taught with a provisional teaching certificate during the year
213 immediately preceding an application for a provisional educator
214 certificate as an employee of a local or regional board of education or
215 facility approved for special education by the State Board of Education.
216 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, [to the contrary,]
217 the State Board of Education may reissue an initial educator certificate
218 to a person who held such certificate and did not achieve a satisfactory
219 evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical assessment provided
220 the person submits evidence demonstrating significant intervening
221 study and experience, in accordance with standards established by the
222 State Board of Education.

223 Sec. 12. Subsection (d) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
224 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
225 *1, 2002*):

226 (d) The state Department of Education may fund, within available
227 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational
228 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut
229 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special
230 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at
231 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the
232 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; (2) institutes
233 to provide continuing education for Connecticut public school
234 educators, assessors and cooperating teachers and teacher mentors,
235 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut
236 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut
237 Humanities Council; and (3) a beginning teacher support and

238 assessment program to train Connecticut public school teachers and
239 other qualified persons approved by the Commissioner of Education
240 and certified teachers at such private special education and other
241 designated facilities who serve as mentors or assessors for beginning
242 teachers and who supervise, train and assist or assess beginning
243 teachers in their initial years in teaching and to pay stipends to
244 assessors. Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly
245 to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers when
246 cooperating teachers, teacher mentors, beginning teachers and
247 assessors are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for
248 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating
249 and student teachers, teacher mentors, assessors and beginning
250 teachers. The cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and
251 assessment programs shall operate in accordance with regulations
252 which shall be adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to
253 chapter 54. Student teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating
254 teachers. Beginning teachers shall participate in a beginning teacher
255 support and assessment program as made available by the board.
256 School districts shall be responsible for providing support to beginning
257 teachers which shall include, but not be limited to, the placement of
258 beginning teachers with trained teacher mentors who may be full or
259 part-time teachers in the same or a different building than the
260 beginning teacher and provision of trained assessors to conduct
261 assessments of beginning teachers. Cooperating teachers, teacher
262 mentors and assessors may serve concurrently in more than one
263 capacity and may be assigned more than one student teacher or
264 beginning teacher in each such capacity. The assessment of each
265 beginning teacher shall be based upon, but not limited to, data
266 obtained from observations conducted by assessors using an
267 assessment instrument. [Notwithstanding any regulation to the
268 contrary, the State Board of Education may require less than six
269 observations as part of such assessment for the fiscal year ending June
270 30, 1992, and may establish different assessment standards for use
271 during such fiscal year. Notwithstanding any regulation to the
272 contrary, a] A beginning teacher need not be assessed by a certified

273 teacher who holds a certification endorsement in the same general
274 subject area as such beginning teacher. Cooperating teachers and
275 teacher mentors who are Connecticut public school teachers and
276 assessors who are employed by school districts shall be selected by
277 local and regional boards of education. Cooperating teachers and
278 teacher mentors and assessors at such private special education and
279 other designated facilities shall be selected by the authority responsible
280 for the operation of such facilities. If a board of education is unable to
281 identify a sufficient number of individuals to serve in such positions,
282 the commissioner may select qualified persons who are not employed
283 by the board of education to serve in such positions. Such regulations
284 shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom experience
285 and recognized success as educators. The provisions of sections 10-
286 153a to 10-153n, inclusive, as amended, shall not be applicable to the
287 selection, placement and compensation of persons participating in the
288 cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and assessment
289 programs pursuant to the provisions of this section and to the hours
290 and duties of such persons. The State Board of Education shall protect
291 and save harmless, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-235,
292 any cooperating teacher, teacher mentor or assessor while serving in
293 such capacity.

294 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2002*) The Department of Higher
295 Education shall collaborate with the Department of Education, the
296 regional community-technical colleges and four-year institutions of
297 higher education that offer teacher preparation programs, to design
298 programs to allow community-technical college students who are
299 interested in pursuing teaching careers to enter teacher preparation
300 programs at four-year institutions upon completion of their
301 community-technical college programs. Under the programs, a student
302 shall be jointly accepted for admission by the community-technical
303 college and the four-year institution, provided actual admission to the
304 four-year institution shall be subject to successful completion of the
305 community-technical college program. The programs shall include a
306 counseling component.

307 Sec. 14. Subsection (c) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is
308 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
309 *1, 2002*):

310 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 10-
311 145b, as amended, the following persons shall be eligible for a
312 nonrenewable temporary certificate: (1) A person who has resided in a
313 state other than Connecticut during the year immediately preceding
314 application for certification in Connecticut and meets the requirements
315 for certification, excluding successful completion of the competency
316 examination and subject matter assessment, if such person holds
317 current teacher certification in a state other than Connecticut and has
318 completed at least one year of successful teaching in another state in a
319 public school or a nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state
320 board of education, (2) a person who has graduated from a teacher
321 preparation program at a college or university outside of the state and
322 regionally accredited, and meets the requirements for certification,
323 excluding successful completion of the competency examination and
324 subject matter assessment, [and] (3) a person hired by a charter school
325 after July first in any school year for a teaching position that school
326 year, provided the person hired after said date could reasonably be
327 expected to complete the requirements prescribed in subparagraphs
328 (B) and (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-145b, by
329 the commencement of the school year following the school year in
330 which such person held such temporary certificate, and (4) a person
331 hired to teach in a subject or geographic shortage area pursuant to
332 section 10-8b who (A) has successfully completed the competency
333 examination or has achieved a combined score of one thousand or
334 more on a Scholastic Aptitude Test administered on or before March
335 31, 1995, or a combined score of eleven hundred or more on a
336 Scholastic Aptitude Test administered on or after April 1, 1995, and (B)
337 has five years of successful teaching experience in a related subject
338 area, (i) in this state in a nonpublic school approved by the Department
339 of Education, (ii) in another state in a public school or a nonpublic
340 school approved by the appropriate state board of education, (iii) at a

341 public or private institution of higher education accredited by the
342 Department of Higher Education, or (iv) at a public or private
343 institution of higher education in another state that is regionally
344 accredited. The nonrenewable temporary certificate shall be valid for
345 one year from the date it is issued. Any board of education employing
346 a person who holds a nonrenewable temporary certificate issued
347 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall
348 provide a program to assist each such person who has not successfully
349 completed the competency examination by January fifteenth of the
350 school year in which such certificate was issued. Said program,
351 developed in consultation with the [state] Department of Education,
352 shall include academic and classroom support service components.
353 Each such person who does not successfully complete said
354 examination by said January fifteenth shall participate in said
355 program.

356 Sec. 15. (*Effective from passage*) The Teachers' Retirement Board
357 pursuant to section 10-1831 of the general statutes, as amended, shall
358 study the feasibility and cost of establishing an optional alternate
359 retirement system for teachers, as defined in section 10-183b of the
360 general statutes, who are first hired on or after July 1, 2003, by any
361 school district in this state and are employed for an average of at least
362 one-half of each school day. The board may consider a plan similar to
363 that developed for eligible unclassified employees of the constituent
364 units of the state system of higher education and the central office staff
365 of the Department of Higher Education pursuant to subsection (c) of
366 section 5-155a of the general statutes or any other portable plan that
367 includes matching contributions by the state. Not later than January 1,
368 2003, the Teachers' Retirement Board shall report its findings and
369 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General
370 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education."