



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 650**

February Session, 2022

Substitute Senate Bill No. 273

*Senate, April 26, 2022*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. OSTEN of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A REVIEW OF THE STATUTES GOVERNING  
TEACHER CERTIFICATION AND THE CREATION OF A CAREER AND  
TECHNICAL PATHWAYS INSTRUCTOR PERMIT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Education shall  
2 conduct a review of the statutes and regulations relating to teacher  
3 certification. Such review shall identify obsolete provisions, evaluate  
4 existing requirements for effectiveness and analyze whether any such  
5 statutes or regulations create a barrier to entry or undue hardship for  
6 the recruitment or retention of teaching candidates, including  
7 reciprocity with other states and Puerto Rico, or addressing the  
8 academic needs of students in the state. The department may seek input  
9 and recommendations from stakeholder groups while conducting such  
10 review. Not later than January 1, 2023, the department shall submit a  
11 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
12 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
13 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
14 of the general statutes.

15       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) For the school years  
16 commencing July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023, the State Board of Education,  
17 upon the request of a local or regional board of education or a regional  
18 educational service center, may issue a career and technical pathways  
19 instructor permit to any person with specialized training, experience or  
20 expertise in the field of manufacturing, allied health, computer  
21 technology, engineering or any of the construction trades. Such permit  
22 shall authorize such person to hold a part-time position of not more than  
23 twenty classroom instructional hours per week as a teacher of a class in  
24 such person's area of specialized training, experience or expertise. Such  
25 person shall (1) hold (A) an associate degree or a bachelor's degree in  
26 the field of manufacturing, allied health, computer technology,  
27 engineering or any of the construction trades, from an institution of  
28 higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher  
29 Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, or (B)  
30 a credential, as defined in section 10a-34h of the general statutes, in the  
31 field of manufacturing, allied health, computer technology, engineering  
32 or any of the construction trades; and (2) have a minimum of two years  
33 of work experience in the field of manufacturing, allied health,  
34 computer technology, engineering or any of the construction trades.

35       (b) During a period of such employment, a person holding a career  
36 and technical pathways instructor permit shall be under the supervision  
37 of the superintendent of schools or of a principal, administrator or  
38 supervisor designated by such superintendent who shall regularly  
39 observe, guide and evaluate the performance of assigned duties by such  
40 holder of a career and technical pathways instructor permit.

41       (c) Each such career and technical pathways instructor permit shall  
42 be valid for the school years commencing July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023.

43       (d) Any board of education or regional educational service center  
44 employing a person who holds a career and technical pathways  
45 instructor permit issued under this section shall provide a program to  
46 assist each such person. Such program, developed in consultation with  
47 the Department of Education, shall include academic and classroom

48 support service components.

49 (e) No person holding a career and technical pathways instructor  
50 permit shall fill a position that will result in the displacement of any  
51 person holding a teaching certificate under section 10-145b of the  
52 general statutes who is already employed at such school.

53 (f) Any person holding a career and technical pathways instructor  
54 permit pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to be eligible for  
55 membership in the teachers' retirement system solely by reason of such  
56 permit, provided any such person who holds a regular teacher's  
57 certificate issued by the State Board of Education shall not be excluded  
58 from membership in said system.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

**ED**         *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*                             APP

**APP**         *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	50,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a minimal cost in FY 23 to the State Department of Education (SDE) associated with an additional durational part-time staff person, with a corresponding salary of approximately \$50,000, to review teacher certification statutes and regulations. This person will also make recommendations on any obsolete provisions and requirements that create a barrier to teacher recruitment and retention as the bill requires. SDE does not currently have the staff available to complete the requirements within the bill. Additionally, the bill establishes a career and technical pathways instructor permit, which does not have a fiscal impact.

**The Out Years**

There are no costs in the out years, as the part-time position is durational.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 273*****AN ACT CONCERNING A REVIEW OF THE STATUTES GOVERNING TEACHER CERTIFICATION AND THE CREATION OF A CAREER AND TECHNICAL PATHWAYS INSTRUCTOR PERMIT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the state Board of Education (SBE) to issue career and technical pathways instructor permits if requested by a local or regional board of education or regional educational service center (RESC). Under the bill, these permits allow individuals who meet specified criteria to teach part-time in a specialized field (i.e., manufacturing, allied health, computer technology, engineering, or the construction trades) for the 2022 and 2023 school years.

The bill requires the employing board or RESC to provide a program, developed in consultation with the state Department of Education (SDE), to help these permitted instructors with academic and classroom supports. The bill prohibits these instructors from filling a position at a school that will displace a certified teacher employed there.

The bill also requires SDE to review the state's teacher certification statutes and regulations. The review must (1) identify obsolete provisions; (2) evaluate the existing requirements' effectiveness; and (3) analyze whether any of the laws create a barrier to entry or undue hardship for (a) teacher candidate recruitment or retention, including state reciprocity (including Puerto Rico) or (b) addressing student academic needs. SDE must report its findings and recommendations to the Education Committee by January 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022, except the review of teacher certification laws is effective upon passage.

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**CAREER AND TECHNICAL PATHWAYS INSTRUCTOR PERMITS**

Under the bill, the SBE-issued permit authorizes a person with specialized training, experience, or expertise in one of the fields described above to teach up to 20 classroom instructional hours per week in his or her field. To qualify, the person must have (1) an associate's or bachelor's degree or a qualifying credential (see below) in the specialized field and (2) at least two years of experience in one of those fields.

Under the bill, the individual's degree must be from an institution that is regionally accredited or accredited by either the Board of Regents for Higher Education or the Office of Higher Education. By law and under the bill, a "credential" is a documented award issued by an authorized body, including any:

1. degree or certificate awarded by a higher education institution, private occupational school, or SBE-approved alternate route to certification program provider;
2. certification awarded through an exam process designed to demonstrate an individual's knowledge, skill, and ability to perform a specific job;
3. government-issued license that allows a qualifying individual to practice a specific occupation; and
4. documented completion of an apprenticeship or job training program.

Under the bill, the career and technical pathways instructor permit is valid only for the 2022 and 2023 school years. While employed, these instructors must be supervised by the school superintendent or his or her designee (e.g., a principal or administrator). The designated supervisor must regularly observe, guide, and evaluate the instructor's performance.

Under the bill, permitted instructors are not eligible for the Teacher's

Retirement System (TRS) solely by holding a permit, but they are not excluded from TRS membership if they have a regular SBE-issued teacher's certificate.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP  
Yea 39 Nay 0 (03/25/2022)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable  
Yea 50 Nay 0 (04/07/2022)