

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 700 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, DUSH, LAUGHLIN, BROWN, HUTCHINSON, MILLER, HAYWOOD, SCHWANK, MASTRIANO, MUTH AND PENNYCUICK, JUNE 14, 2023

SENATOR ARGALL, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 24, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in certification of teachers, further
6 providing for Career and Technical Instructional Certificate; <--
7 and abrogating regulations.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 1204.2(b) of the act of March 10, 1949
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
12 amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection <--

13 SUBSECTIONS to read: <--

14 Section 1204.2. Career and Technical Instructional
15 Certificate.--\* \* \*

16 (b) [In addition to other requirements promulgated by the
17 State Board of Education, the State Board of Education shall
18 require an applicant to present evidence of at least four (4)
19 years of wage-earning experience in the occupation to be taught
20 in order for the Secretary of Education to grant the applicant a

1 Career and Technical Intern Certificate under 22 Pa. Code §  
2 49.151 (relating to eligibility and criteria).] ~~Notwithstanding~~ <--  
3 ~~any requirement promulgated by the State Board of Education, the~~  
4 ~~Department of Education shall issue a Career and Technical~~  
5 ~~Instructional I Certificate~~ IN ADDITION TO OTHER REQUIREMENTS <--  
6 PROMULGATED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
7 EDUCATION SHALL ISSUE A CAREER AND TECHNICAL INTERN CERTIFICATE  
8 UNDER 22 PA. CODE § 49.151 (RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY AND  
9 CRITERIA) to an individual seeking a position with the primary  
10 responsibility of teaching occupational skills in State-approved  
11 career and technical education programs in the public schools of  
12 this Commonwealth if the individual presents any of the  
13 following:

14 (1) Evidence of A MINIMUM OF eight thousand (8,000) hours, <--  
15 equivalent to four (4) years full-time, ~~within their lifetime of~~ <--  
16 wage-earning experience in the occupational area to be taught  
17 and satisfactory achievement on an approved occupational <--  
18 assessment.

19 (2) EVIDENCE OF A MINIMUM OF FOUR THOUSAND (4,000) HOURS, <--  
20 EQUIVALENT TO TWO (2) YEARS FULL-TIME, OF WAGE-EARNING  
21 EXPERIENCE IN THE OCCUPATIONAL AREA TO BE TAUGHT PLUS A  
22 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE.

23 ~~(2)~~ (3) Evidence of A MINIMUM OF eight thousand (8,000) <--  
24 hours, equivalent to four (4) years full-time, ~~within their~~ <--  
25 ~~lifetime~~ of experience as a volunteer firefighter or emergency  
26 medical technician in the occupational area to be taught and <--  
27 satisfactory achievement on an approved occupational assessment.

28 ~~(3)~~ (4) Evidence OF A MINIMUM of eight thousand (8,000) <--  
29 hours, equivalent to four (4) years full-time, OF experience <--  
30 ~~within their lifetime~~ teaching post-secondary courses AT A <--

1 REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION in the  
2 occupational area to be taught and satisfactory achievement on <--  
3 an approved occupational assessment.

4 \* \* \*

5 (B.1) IN ADDITION TO OTHER REQUIREMENTS PROMULGATED BY THE <--  
6 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL  
7 ISSUE A CAREER AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONAL I CERTIFICATE UNDER  
8 22 PA. CODE § 49.142 (RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL  
9 INSTRUCTIONAL I) TO AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING A POSITION WITH THE  
10 PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF TEACHING OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS IN STATE-  
11 APPROVED CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN THE PUBLIC  
12 SCHOOLS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH IF THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENTS ANY OF  
13 THE FOLLOWING:

14 (1) EVIDENCE OF A MINIMUM OF EIGHT THOUSAND (8,000) HOURS,  
15 EQUIVALENT TO FOUR (4) YEARS FULL-TIME, OF WAGE-EARNING  
16 EXPERIENCE IN THE OCCUPATIONAL AREA TO BE TAUGHT.

17 (2) EVIDENCE OF A MINIMUM OF FOUR THOUSAND (4,000) HOURS,  
18 EQUIVALENT TO TWO (2) YEARS FULL-TIME, OF WAGE-EARNING  
19 EXPERIENCE IN THE OCCUPATIONAL AREA TO BE TAUGHT PLUS A  
20 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE.

21 (3) EVIDENCE OF A MINIMUM OF EIGHT THOUSAND (8,000) HOURS,  
22 EQUIVALENT TO FOUR (4) YEARS FULL-TIME, AS A VOLUNTEER  
23 FIREFIGHTER OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN IN THE OCCUPATIONAL  
24 AREA TO BE TAUGHT.

25 (4) EVIDENCE OF A MINIMUM OF EIGHT THOUSAND (8,000) HOURS,  
26 EQUIVALENT TO FOUR (4) YEARS FULL-TIME, OF EXPERIENCE TEACHING  
27 POST-SECONDARY COURSES AT A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF  
28 HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE OCCUPATIONAL AREA TO BE TAUGHT.

29 \* \* \*

30 (f) As used in this section, the following words and phrases

1 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless  
2 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Emergency medical technician" shall mean an individual who  
4 is certified by the Department of Health as an emergency medical  
5 technician.

6 ~~"Satisfactory achievement" shall mean an acceptable level of <--~~  
7 ~~performance as determined by the State Board of Education on the~~  
8 ~~department prescribed assessments required under 22 Pa. Code Ch.~~  
9 ~~49 (relating to certification of professional personnel).~~

10 "Volunteer firefighter" shall mean as follows:

11 (1) A person who is a member of:

12 (i) a fire company organized and existing under the laws of  
13 this Commonwealth;

14 (ii) a fire police unit, rescue squad, ambulance corps or  
15 other like organization affiliated with one or more fire  
16 companies; or

17 (iii) a fire company or affiliated organization which  
18 participates in the fire service but does not look to that  
19 service as his or her primary means of livelihood.

20 (2) A person does not lose status as a volunteer firefighter  
21 solely because he or she may also be a paid firefighter, so long  
22 as the person is acting within the scope of his or her  
23 responsibilities as a member of a volunteer fire company at the  
24 pertinent time and not within the scope of his or her  
25 responsibilities as a paid firefighter.

26 ~~Section 2. The provisions of 22 Pa. Code §§ 49.142(a)(1) and <--~~  
27 ~~49.151(b) are abrogated.~~

28 Section 3 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days. <--