

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2764

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

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Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

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**Senators Diegnan, Durr, Gopal, O'Scanlon, Assemblyman Caputo,
Assemblywoman Dunn, Assemblymen Umba, Sauickie, Space, Wirths and
Assemblywoman Mosquera**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “VETeach Pilot Program” in DOE to facilitate teacher certification of veterans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on December 14, 2023, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/21/2023)

1 AN ACT establishing the “VETeach Pilot Program” in the
2 Department of Education and supplementing chapter 6 of Title
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. a. There is established in the Department of Education a
9 four-year “VETeach Pilot Program.” The purpose of the pilot
10 program shall be to address the shortage of certified public school
11 teachers, by taking advantage of the qualified workforce
12 represented by the State’s veterans. The pilot program shall
13 facilitate the teacher certification of veterans in order to advance the
14 State’s goals of ensuring a qualified public school workforce and
15 addressing the high rate of unemployment among returning
16 veterans.

17 b. ¹A four-year public institution of higher education wishing to
18 participate in the pilot program shall submit an application to the
19 Commissioner of Education in a form prescribed by the
20 commissioner. The commissioner shall select up to four institutions
21 to participate in the pilot program.

22 c.¹ Under the pilot program, ¹**【Rowan University】** a
23 participating four-year public institution of higher education¹ shall
24 enroll, in a 36-month teacher preparation program, a single cohort
25 of students who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces and
26 who served on or after September 11, 2001. The program shall lead
27 to a baccalaureate degree and completion of the requirements
28 necessary to apply to the State Board of Examiners for a certificate
29 of eligibility with advanced standing.

30 ¹**【c. Rowan University】** d. A participating four-year public
31 institution of higher education¹ shall establish, with the approval of
32 the State Board of Education, the coherent sequence of courses
33 required to be completed by a student under the pilot program in
34 order to be eligible to receive a certificate of eligibility with
35 advanced standing. A certificate of eligibility with advanced
36 standing issued to a student who completes the pilot program shall
37 authorize the student to seek employment as a teacher in grades
38 kindergarten through eight, and in certain secondary education
39 fields.

40 ¹**【d.】** e.¹ Upon the conclusion of the pilot program, the
41 commissioner shall report to the Governor, and to the Legislature
42 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the
43 number of veterans who enrolled in the teacher preparation program
44 established under the pilot program, the number of veterans who

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted December 14, 2023.

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1 were hired as teachers in public or nonpublic schools, and the
2 advisability of the establishment of similar programs on a
3 permanent basis.

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.