

(H. B. 1553)

**(No. 121)**

(Approved September 26, 2005)

**AN ACT**

To create the adults' teacher certification and direct the Secretary of the Department of Education to amend the Puerto Rico Teachers Certification Regulations and any other applicable administrative standard, in order to comply with the purpose and objective of this Act.

**STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

According to Section 2 of Act No. 94 of June 21, 1955, as amended, it is the duty of the Department of Education to approve regulations that establish the academic, vocational, technical, professional experience and specialization requirements relative to their profession for the certification aspirants to practice any of the various teaching categories in the education system of Puerto Rico, as well as other requirements to renew said certifications.

The Department of Education has regulations in effect to such purposes known as Puerto Rico Teachers' Certification Regulations. However, it does not contemplate the adults' teacher category nor provides for the procedure to obtain an adults' certificate.

It is so, regardless of the fact that the Department of Education operates adults' and community teaching programs and activities; alphabetization projects and night schools, among others as directed by the law.

In view of this picture, the Legislature of Puerto Rico deems it necessary the creation of the adults' teacher certification in order to strengthen said programs and to develop new professionals in the adults' teaching field; and to direct the Secretary of the Department of Education to amend the Puerto Rico Teachers' Certification Regulations and any other applicable administrative standard, in order to comply with the purpose and objective of this Act.

***BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:***

Section 1.- The adults' teacher category is hereby created and the Secretary of the Department of Education is hereby authorized to issue adults' teacher certifications, pursuant to the procedures established in Act No. 94 of June 21, 1955, as amended and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Section 2.- The Department of Education shall amend the Puerto Rico Teachers' Certification Regulations and shall modify or adopt the pertinent administrative standards, rules, and regulations, in order to temper them to the provisions of this Act, within a term of more than ninety (90) days after the date of approval thereof and observing at least the procedural requirements contained in Section 2 of Act No. 94 of June 21, 1955, as amended.

Section 3.- The creation of the adults' teacher certification shall have no effect nor shall curtail the rights acquired by teachers certificated in other categories and the Secretary shall have the power to maintain unaltered the current recruiting procedure for the academic services of the Adults' Education Program. Provided, that a teacher may also obtain the adults' teacher certification, whether or not he/she has other certifications.

Section 4.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 121 (H.B. 1553) of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to create the adults' teacher certification and direct the Secretary of the Department of Education to amend the Puerto Rico Teachers Certification Regulations and any other applicable administrative standard, in order to comply with the purpose and objective of this Act,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 9<sup>th</sup> of February of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director