

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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September 30, 1983

83-8412

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested In the Activities
Of The Commission On Teacher Credentialing

FROM: John F. Brown, Executive Secretary *John F. Brown*

SUBJECT: An Additional Exemption From The California Basic Educational
Skills Test (CBEST)

Chapter 1038 of 1983 (AB 827, Johnston) was signed by the Governor on September 22, 1983 with an effective date of January 1, 1984. Subsection 44252(d) exempts applicants for a Designated Subjects Vocational credential from the CBEST. However, this Subsection and Subsection 44830(j) place the responsibility for verification of basic skill proficiency on the school district(s) employing the holder of the Vocational Education Credential. These two Subsections of Chapter 1038 are the only important differences between SB 1225 and AB 837. They are reprinted on the reverse side for your information and use.

Some holders of Designated Subjects Vocational Education Credential issued after February 1, 1983 may have registered for the CBEST but have decided not to take the test since it is no longer required for the credential after January 1, 1984. These people may apply for a partial refund of their CBEST fee by following the instructions on page 6 of the 1983-84 CBEST Information Bulletin. The full fee can not be refunded, because the tickets of admission had already been prepared, tests printed and prepared for shipment, and test center arrangements had been made before the law was amended.

The one-year preliminary Designated Subjects Vocational Education Credential may be renewed following the usual procedure and fee for credential renewal.

Subsection 44252(d)

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the holders of, or applicants for, a vocational designated subject credential to pass the state basic skills proficiency test. The governing board of each school district, or each governing board of a consortium of school districts, or each governing board involved in a joint powers agreement which employs a holder of a vocational designated subject credential shall establish its own basic skills proficiency criteria for the holders of these credentials and shall arrange for those individuals to be assessed. The basic skills proficiency criteria established by the governing board shall be at least equivalent to the test required by the district or in the case of a consortium or a joint powers agreement, by any of the participating districts, for graduation from high school. The governing board or boards may charge a fee to individuals being tested to cover the costs of the test, including the costs of developing, administering, and grading the test.

Subsection 44830(j)

(j) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the holder of a vocational designated subject credential to pass the state basic skills proficiency test as a condition of employment. The governing board of each school district, or each governing board of a consortium of school districts, or each governing board involved in a joint powers agreement, which employs the holder of a vocational designated subject credential shall establish its own basic skills proficiency criteria for these credentials and shall arrange for those individuals to be assessed. The basic skills proficiency criteria established by the governing board shall be at least equivalent to the test required by the district, or in the case of a consortium or a joint powers agreement, by any of the participating districts, for graduation from high school. The governing board or boards may charge a fee to individuals being tested to cover the costs of the test, including the costs of developing, administering, and grading the test.