

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 158

BY: WILLIAMS (Penny), COLE,
ROBINSON, HANEY, SNYDER and
RUBOTTOM of the SENATE

and

McCORKELL and BRYANT of the
HOUSE

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOLS; AMENDING SECTION 23,
CHAPTER 2, O.S.L. SUPP. 1989 (70 O.S. SUPP. 1990,
SECTION 6-122.3), WHICH RELATES TO ALTERNATIVE
CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS AND TEACHING CERTIFICATES;
CHANGING CERTAIN ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS;
ELIMINATING CERTAIN TEACHING RESTRICTIONS;
PROHIBITING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FROM
ACCREDITING CERTAIN TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 23, Chapter 2, O.S.L. 1989
(70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 6-122.3 A. ~~Beginning July 1, 1990, the~~ The State Board
of Education shall grant an Alternative Program teaching certificate
to a person who makes application to the State Board and meets all
of the following criteria:

1. Holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education;

2. Has completed a major in a field that corresponds to an area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary Certificate in a foreign language or special education or a Secondary Certificate in mathematics or science or a ~~foreign language~~ other area for which an institution of higher education in this state is offering an Alternative Certification Program;

3. Declares the intention to earn Provisional Level I Certification by means of the Alternative Certification Program in not more than three (3) years and the intention to earn Standard Certification by means of the Alternative Certification Program in not more than five (5) years. For the purposes of the Alternative Certification Program only, the requirements for the Professional Education component required for State Certification shall be as follows:

Provisional Level I Certificate not more than 10 semester hours

Provisional Level II Certificate not more than 14 semester hours

Standard Certificate not more than 18 semester hours

Such requirements shall exclude all student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of subsection D of this section;

4. Has passed the curriculum examination(s) in the area of specialization for which certification is sought; and

5. Presents a document from an accredited public school district in this state offering employment in the area of specialization for which certification is sought on condition that the person enroll in an Alternative Certification Program approved

by the State Board of Education. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title, and the holder of such certificate shall be considered an "entry-year teacher" for the purposes of Section 6-154 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

B. ~~1.~~ Said certificate shall be renewed without necessity of certification each year for not more than two (2) years upon presentation of a document from an accredited public school district in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of specialization and a document from a teacher education institution verifying satisfactory progress in the appropriate Alternative Certification Program.

~~2. Until such a time as the participant in the Alternative Certification Program has been awarded a Standard Teaching Certificate by the Oklahoma State Board of Education, such participant shall be subject to the following limitations:~~

- ~~a. teaching only secondary mathematics classes which are more advanced than Algebra I, for participants with an area of specialization in the area of mathematics;~~
- ~~b. teaching only secondary science classes which are more advanced than General Science, for participants with an area of specialization in the area of science; and~~
- ~~c. teaching only secondary foreign language classes, for participants with an area of specialization in foreign languages.~~

C. Persons enrolled in an Alternative Certification Program shall:

1. ~~Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the~~

~~Oklahoma State Board of Education to offer teacher education programs, nor have entered and subsequently failed to successfully meet the minimum requirements of such program;~~

~~2. Have been admitted to a teacher education program that meets the specifications provided in paragraph 1 of this subsection and complete Complete, or have completed or enrolled in, not less fewer than six (6) semester credit hours recognized for Alternative Certification Program credit before commencing teaching duties;~~

~~3. 2. Document at least five (5) three (3) years of teaching in one or more institutions of higher education or private schools or work experience outside of education which was related to the subject area of specialization or some combination thereof;~~

~~4. 3. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard certification requirements within five (5) years;~~

~~5. 4. Participate in the Entry-year Assistance Program, Section 6-152 et seq. of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title; and~~

~~6. 5. Have the same duties and responsibilities as other Entry-year Assistance Program participants.~~

D. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience shall not be required of Alternative Certification Program participants for Provisional Level I or any subsequent certification. At such time as a participant in an Alternative Certification Program has completed the other course requirements for Provisional Level I Certification and has been recommended for certification pursuant to the Entry-year Assistance Program, the State Board of Education shall grant the certificate. Award of the Provisional Level I Certificate under the Alternative Certification Program shall constitute satisfaction of all admissions requirements for ~~standard certification~~ Standard Certification.

E. Each teacher education institution shall provide the Office of Accountability an annual report regarding participation in the Alternative Certification Program.

F. The State Board of Education shall not, after June 30, 1992, accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education program of any institution of higher education in this state that has not made a commitment to, and begun implementation of, Alternative Certification Programs in at least four areas of specialization, including mathematics, science and a foreign language, whereby individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this section are:

1. Admitted without further qualification; and

2. Offered during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year of teaching under the Alternative Certification Program the opportunity to complete the Provisional Level I course requirements set forth in subsection A of this section; provided, persons seeking Alternative Certification shall be permitted to take necessary courses during regular semesters if offered.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 1991.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of

_____, 1991.

Speaker

of the House of
Representatives