

SHORT TITLE: Shorthand reporting; changing certain examination requirement for certification; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

SENATE BILL NO. 297

By: Smith

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to shorthand reporting; amending 20

O.S. 1991, Section 1503, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 130, O.S.L. 1994 (20 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 1503), which relates to application for and contents of certain examination; changing certain examination requirement for certification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 1503, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 130, O.S.L. 1994 (20 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 1503), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1503. A. Every applicant who seeks to be examined for enrollment as a certified shorthand reporter shall prove to the satisfaction of the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters that he or she:

1. Is of legal age;
2. Meets the requisite standards of ethical fitness; and
3. Has at least a high school education or its equivalent.

B. The examination for certification in one or more authorized methods of shorthand reporting consists of two parts, designated Part 1 and Part 2 as follows:

1. Part 1 consists of proof of having passed the Registered Professional Reporter Examination of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) or an equivalent test as authorized by the Supreme Court consisting of the following requirements: demonstrated proficiency in reporting testimony and proceedings at a speed of not ~~more~~ less than ~~two hundred (200)~~ two hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer type dictation ~~only~~, and at a speed of not less than one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in taking literary materials which shall be designed to test an applicant's ability to accurately transcribe opening and closing arguments, and in preparing an accurate transcription thereof that is reasonably free from spelling errors. The Board may not increase or decrease ~~such~~ this minimum speed requirement, by rule or otherwise; and

2. Part 2 is the Oklahoma Written Knowledge test which consists of not less than twenty-five multiple choice questions relating to Oklahoma law and court rules, duties of certified shorthand reporters, and general court procedure. The examination shall be approved by the Supreme Court.

C. An applicant who is academically dishonest when taking any authorized examination is disqualified and may not take the examination again until two (2) years have elapsed from the date of the examination at which the applicant was disqualified.

D. A certification issued under this section must be for one or more of the following methods of shorthand reporting:

1. Written shorthand;
2. Machine shorthand; or
3. Any other method of shorthand reporting authorized by the

Supreme Court.

E. No person may engage in shorthand reporting in this state unless the person is a licensed or certified shorthand reporter or otherwise authorized by law or the Supreme Court.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective January 1, 1996.

45-1-0795

KSM