

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 3087

By: Graves

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public libraries; amending 65 O.S. 1991, Sections 3-103 and 4-106, as amended by Sections 4 and 12, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1992, Section 9, Chapter 165, O.S.L. 1995, 156, as amended by Section 15, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1992, and 556 (65 O.S. Supp. 1997, Sections 3-103, 4-106, 4-206 and 156), which relate to libraries; removing the requirement that librarians and library officials have a degree from a school accredited by the American Library Association; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 65 O.S. 1991, Section 3-103, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1992 (65 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 3-103), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-103. The offices of Director and Assistant Director are hereby created. The Director shall be appointed by the Board on the basis of merit and appropriate experience, shall possess a library degree from a library school ~~accredited by the American Library Association~~ and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

The Assistant Director shall be appointed by the Director, with the approval of the Board, and shall be subject to the same qualifications as herein specified for the Director. The Director shall be the State Librarian and the State Archivist, which offices are hereby created.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 65 O.S. 1991, Section 4-106, as amended by Section 12, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1992 (65 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 4-106), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-106. ~~(a)~~ A. The system board shall appoint a librarian of the library system on the basis of merit and experience. Such librarian shall be a graduate of a library school ~~accredited by the American Library Association.~~ The librarian shall be the administrative, executive and supervisory officer of the library and secretary to the system board. The librarian shall serve at the discretion of the system board.

~~(b)~~ B. The librarian may appoint and remove staff members and other employees.

~~(c)~~ C. The system board may establish or participate in employee retirement and health insurance programs either for the exclusive benefit of its staff or jointly and, in conjunction with city, county, state, or other retirement systems, may expend upon authorization of the board funds allocated by the board for such purposes.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 9, Chapter 165, O.S.L. 1995 (65 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 4-206), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-206. A. The rural single county library system board shall appoint a librarian of the library system on the basis of merit and experience. In counties with a population of twenty thousand (20,000) or more, the librarian shall be a graduate of a library school ~~accredited by the American Library Association.~~ ~~In counties with a population of less than twenty thousand (20,000),~~

~~during the first two (2) years after formation of a system the board may appoint a librarian who is not a graduate of a library school accredited by the American Library Association; provided, within five (5) years of formation of the system the librarian must graduate from a library school accredited by the American Library Association in order to continue as librarian. Subsequent librarians appointed in counties with a population of less than twenty thousand (20,000) must be graduates at the time of appointment of a library school accredited by the American Library Association.~~

B. The librarian shall be the administrative, executive and supervisory officer of the library and secretary to the system board. The librarian shall serve at the discretion of the system board.

C. The librarian may appoint and remove staff members and other employees.

D. The librarian and other employees of the system board may participate in employee retirement and health insurance programs offered by the county for county employees or the state for state employees. The costs of employee participation in the county or state programs shall be paid by the system board from library funds.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 65 O.S. 1991, Section 156, as amended by Section 15, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1992 (65 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 156), is amended to read as follows:

Section 156. The commission shall appoint a librarian of the city-county library system on the basis of merit and experience. Such librarian shall be a graduate of a library school ~~accredited by the American Library Association.~~ The librarian shall serve at the discretion of the commission. The librarian may appoint and remove staff members and other employees, subject to the approval of the commission.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 65 O.S. 1991, Section 556, is amended to read as follows:

Section 556. The commission shall appoint a librarian of the metropolitan library system on the basis of merit and experience. Such librarian shall be a graduate of a library school ~~accredited by the American Library Association~~. The librarian shall serve at the discretion of the commission. The librarian may appoint and remove staff members and other employees, subject to the approval of the commission.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

SECTION 7. 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.

46-2-9140

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