

ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT  
TO  
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1237

By: Williams and Campbell of  
the Senate

and

Paulk of the House

( schools - teacher competency examinations -  
reimbursement of fees - effective date -  
emergency )

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the stricken title, enacting clause and  
entire bill and insert

“( schools - teacher competency examinations -  
reimbursement of fees - effective date -  
emergency )

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 5-141, as  
amended by Section 1, Chapter 215, O.S.L. 1993 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999,  
Section 5-141), is amended to read as follows:

Section 5-141. A. Each school district of this state shall  
adopt a minimum salary schedule and shall transmit a copy of it to  
the State Board of Education within thirty (30) days after adoption.  
A school district shall not calculate teacher's salaries solely as a  
proportion of the salaries of that district's administrators.  
Districts shall be encouraged to provide compensation schedules to  
reflect district policies and circumstances, including differential  
pay for different subject areas and special incentives for teachers  
in districts with specific geographical attributes. The State

Department of Education shall compile a report of the minimum salary schedules for every school district in the state and shall provide such information to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tempore of the Senate no later than December 15 of each year.

B. Each school district shall file within fifteen (15) days of signing the contract, the employment contract of the superintendent of the school district with the State Department of Education. The Department shall keep all such contracts available for inspection by the public. The school district shall not be authorized to pay any salary, benefits or other compensation to a superintendent which are not specified in the contract on file and shall not pay administrators any amounts for accumulated sick leave that are not calculated on the same formula used for determining payment for accumulated sick leave benefits for other full-time employees of that school district and shall not pay administrators any amounts for accumulated vacation leave benefits that are not calculated on the same formula used for determining payment for accumulated vacation leave benefits for other twelve-month full-time employees of that school district. The school district shall not be authorized to buy out the contract of a superintendent at an amount exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) of the annual or one-year salary and benefits of that superintendent.

C. By October 1 of each year each district board of education shall prepare a schedule of salaries and fringe benefits paid administrators employed by the district, including a description of the fringe benefits. The schedule shall be a public record and shall be disclosed as required by the Oklahoma Open Records Act, Section 24A.1 et seq. of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The district board shall file a copy of the schedule with the State Department of Education within one week of completion.

D. For purposes of this section the term "administrator" shall include employees who are employed and certified as superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, and assistant principals and who have responsibilities for supervising classroom teachers.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 308, O.S.L. 1992, as renumbered by Section 34, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995, and as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 311, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 6-188), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-188. A. The curriculum examination which was required by Section 6-156 of this title shall be restructured into a competency examination by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with the assistance of the State Board of Education, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board of Vocational and Technical Education in accordance with the provisions of Section 6-184 of this title concurrently with the development of the new teacher preparation system. The competency-based teacher examination shall replace the current teacher curriculum examination which was established in Sections 6-150 through 6-158 and 6-162 through 6-170 of this title. The new teacher competency examination shall be ready for implementation and administered by the Commission beginning July 1, 1997. The competency examination shall serve as a threshold for entry into the profession.

B. By September 1, 1995, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall develop and release a request for proposals for the state teacher competency examination which assesses candidates for licensure and certification for demonstrated competency in subject matter, professional education, and state core knowledge and skills assessment, which includes critical thinking, communication and computation. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall accept bids in an open, competitive bidding process until January 1, 1996. The Commission shall review all bids and proposals and make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by March 1,

1996. In evaluating the bids and proposals the Commission shall take into consideration the cost of developing, administering and scoring the competency examination, the cost to each individual tested and to the state, and shall factor in the cost of periodically updating the state competency examination. The curriculum examination as was required by Section 6-156 of this title and in effect July 1, 1994, shall continue to be offered by the State Board of Education until July 1, 1997. Beginning July 1, 1997, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to continue to offer that examination as needed and to determine whether a student should take that test in lieu of the competency examination.

C. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall reimburse teachers for fees paid for successful completion of competency examinations upon such teacher entering into a contract to teach with any public school district in Oklahoma.

D. Successful completion of the curriculum examination as was required by Section 6-156 of this title shall be sufficient to satisfy the competency examination requirement for any person seeking certification in administration who successfully completed the examination prior to May 1, 1999, and who completes a masters degree in school administration or education administration from an accredited institution of higher education prior to December 31, 1999.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 4. 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 House of Representatives the 17th day of April, 2000.

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Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

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President of the Senate