STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1906 By: Hilliard

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

(Oklahoma School for the Blind and the Oklahoma School for the Deaf - amending 10 O.S. 1991, Section 1419, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 269, O.S.L. 1995 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1419) - minimum salary level - effective date - emergency)

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 1991, Section 1419, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 269, O.S.L. 1995 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1419), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1419. A. The Commission for Rehabilitation Services shall establish and maintain such methods of administration, including methods relating to the establishment and maintenance of personnel standards, as are necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the Oklahoma School for the Blind and the Oklahoma School for the Deaf, and programs thereat; shall maintain records and reports, shall provide a uniform accounting system; and shall incur such expenses and make such expenditures as it deems necessary to maintain and operate such institutions.

B. The Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services shall, subject to the approval of the Commission, employ or contract with qualified instructional personnel including, but not limited to, teachers, principals, directors of student assessment and program development, vocational teachers, career vocational coordinators, head school librarians, school psychologists, mental

health counselors, school counselors, school psychometrists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, orientation and mobility specialists (OSB), speech services supervisors and speech language pathologists, and appoint or employ the superintendent and such other personnel, as the director deems necessary for the proper operation of each institution, and shall fix their duties and compensation. The superintendent, teachers and other employees shall be eligible for membership or participation in the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the same extent and on the same basis as teachers and other employees of other state educational institutions and public schools.

C. The Commission shall promulgate personnel rules and establish policies similar to those applicable to public school district employees for those employees listed in subsection B of this section, including but not limited to leave and employment policies and a salary schedule. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the minimum salary level for qualified instructional personnel listed in subsection B of this section shall meet or exceed the minimum salary level provided for public school teachers in Section 18-114.7 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Department shall be authorized to notify teachers and other personnel on or before April 10 of each year concerning the renewal of contracts.

D. Those personnel listed in subsection B of this section who have entered into contracts with or been employed by the Department for Rehabilitation Services on or before July 1, 1995, in positions listed in subsection B of this section shall be entitled to a salary adjustment retroactive to February 16, 1995, or their first date of employment in such positions, whichever is the later, pursuant to a salary schedule adopted by the Commission.

E. Those personnel listed in subsection B of this section who have entered into contracts with the schools on or before July 1,

1995, shall be entitled to longevity pay as provided in Section 840-2.18 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. 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 resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

47-2-15317 JB 6/11/15