

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL NO. 1237

By: Williams and Campbell of
the Senate

and

Paulk of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

(Schools - teacher competency examinations -
reimbursement of fees - effective date -

emergency)

SECTION 1. 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 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 act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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