

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 SENATE BILL NO. 715

By: Crutchfield of the Senate

and

McCarter of the House

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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to schools, amending Section 6,
11 Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 3,
12 Chapter 344, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section
13 6-185), which relates to the teacher preparation
14 system; requiring preservice programs to include
15 certain substance abuse symptoms identification and
16 classroom management and safety training; providing
17 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 6, Chapter 322, O.S.L.
20 1995, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 344, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S.
21 Supp. 1998, Section 6-185), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 6-185. A. The following competencies and methods shall
23 be incorporated into the programs approved by the Oklahoma
24 Commission for Teacher Preparation for the competency-based teacher
25 preparation system provided for the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation
26 Act:

27 1. The teacher preparation system shall include, but not be
28 limited to, the following competencies:

- 29 a. excellence in the arts and sciences,
- 30 b. an in-depth knowledge of the subject matter to be
31 taught,
- 32 c. the ability to identify and cultivate talent and
potential in students,

- d. an understanding of child and human development,
- e. teaching skills developed through a variety of learning experiences,
- f. the ability to interact effectively with all students,
- g. skills necessary for working with parents, guardians and custodians of students in the education process,
- h. skills necessary to involve the community in education,
- i. skills to foster teamwork within and among schools, and
- j. for administrators, skills necessary to be an effective leader of a school or school district;

2. The preservice program shall include the following methods to achieve the competencies listed in paragraph 1 of this subsection:

- a. require teacher candidates to study arts and sciences at the undergraduate level,
- b. require secondary and elementary/secondary teacher candidates to have undergraduate majors, or their equivalents, in a subject area, and require teacher candidates in early childhood, elementary, and special education to have subject area concentrations which allow qualification as a generalist,
- c. require teacher candidates to study the individuality of students, the capacity of students to learn and the process of learning,
- d. integrate curriculum from other disciplines with the education curriculum,
- e. require teacher candidates to have training experiences and personal contact with parents, guardians or custodians of school-age children,

- 1 f. require teacher candidates to have community
- 2 involvement experience, ~~and~~
- 3 g. structure courses so as to require teamwork
- 4 activities, and
- 5 h. require teacher candidates to study substance abuse
- 6 symptoms identification and prevention, classroom
- 7 management skills, and classroom safety and discipline
- 8 techniques;

9 3. Prior to July 1, 1997, the State Board of Education, and on
10 and after July 1, 1997, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
11 Preparation shall not require more than a four-year program of one
12 hundred twenty-four (124) semester hours to complete a teacher
13 education degree. Provided, any program approved by the State Board
14 of Education prior to July 1, 1995, which requires more hours may
15 continue to require such hours. Any program approved prior to July
16 1, 1995, which requires more than one hundred twenty-four (124)
17 semester hours for a teacher education degree shall implement
18 requirements for this program without additional hours.

19 B. It is the intent of the Legislature that institutions of
20 higher education which offer teacher education programs hold such
21 programs accountable for meeting the licensure and certification
22 competencies approved by the State Board of Education. It is the
23 intent of the Legislature that the teacher education programs
24 incorporate a curriculum to achieve the competency-based system and
25 include integration of the teacher preparation curricula with the
26 arts and sciences departments curricula. Each institution of higher
27 education which seeks accreditation or approval for its teacher
28 education program shall develop an institution plan which follows
29 the State Board of Education competencies for licensure and
30 certification. In developing such institution plans, the higher
31 education institution shall establish a process which seeks
32 information and input from teacher preparation faculty, faculty from

1 arts and sciences and other programs and disciplines which are
2 appropriate, students within the teacher education program,
3 teachers, administrators, parents, guardians or custodians of
4 students and business and community leaders. Each institution shall
5 hold an annual public forum subject to the provisions of the
6 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act regarding the content of the institution
7 plan at which public comment on either the institution's teacher
8 preparation plan or program is solicited. The institution's plan
9 shall be accessible to any interested party under the Oklahoma Open
10 Records Act. No institution of higher education's teacher education
11 program shall be approved by the Commission unless the institution
12 plan has been approved by that institution's governing board.
13 Initial institution plans shall be filed with the Oklahoma
14 Commission for Teacher Preparation by January 1, 1997, and as
15 required by the Commission thereafter. The Oklahoma State Regents
16 for Higher Education may facilitate the development of institution
17 plans to assist institutions of higher education.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

19 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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