

ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT
TO
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 813

By: Williams of the Senate

and

Nations and Roach of the
House

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 202, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-122.3), which relates to alternative placement programs; * * * amending Section 11, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 344, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-190), which relates to qualifications for teacher employment, licensure and certification; * * * amending Section 25, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-202), which relates to the Teacher Competency Review Panel; * * * providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

"An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 202, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-122.3), which relates to alternative placement programs; authorizing licensure of certain applicants; modifying examination requirement; deleting certain documentation requirements; modifying eligibility criteria; authorizing certain license to serve as certain certificate of qualification for certain purposes; requiring State Board of Education to administer alternative teacher assistance program; authorizing State Board of Education to grant teaching certificate to individuals having certain qualifications; authorizing licensure or certification to certain persons enrolled in Alternative Placement Program; requiring State Department of Education to collect certain data and provide certain report; stating guidelines for alternative teacher assistance program; providing composition of alternative teacher assistance committee; requiring district board of education to appoint certain committee upon hiring certain teacher; stating duties of certain committee; requiring State Department of Education to designate personnel to coordinate certain

program; authorizing Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to adopt criteria for approval of certain teacher institutes; stating curricular requirements of certain institute; authorizing institute providers to charge reasonable fees; requiring Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to promulgate rules for certain program; amending Section 8, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 62, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-187), which relates to competency examinations; modifying examination requirements for licensing and certification; amending Section 11, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-190), as last amended by Section 2 of Enrolled House Bill No. 1253 of the 1st Session of the 48th Oklahoma Legislature, which relates to qualifications for teacher employment, licensure and certification; deleting obsolete language; requiring State Department of Education in consultation with Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to identify states with certain similar tests; exempting certain teachers from certain examination requirement; amending Section 25, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-202), which relates to the Teacher Competency Review Panel; modifying qualifications of applicants for certain licensure; requiring certain applicants to complete certain institute and complete subject area portion of certain competency examination; allowing appeal of certain Panel decision to State Board of Education; modifying membership of Panel; prohibiting certain construction; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 202, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-122.3 A. The State Board of Education shall grant an ~~Alternative Placement~~ alternative teaching ~~certificate~~ license to a ~~person~~ an individual who makes application to the State Board and meets all of the following criteria:

1. Holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education;

2. Has completed a major in a field or equivalent coursework that corresponds to an area of specialization for an Elementary-

Secondary Certificate, a Secondary Certificate or a vocational-technical certificate;

3. Declares the intention to earn Standard Certification by means of the Alternative Placement Program in not more than three (3) years or agrees to complete a Teacher Institute as provided in Section 3 of this act. For the purposes of the Alternative Placement Program only, the State Board of Education shall determine the subject matter of professional education component pursuant to this section, and the requirements for the Professional Education component required for Standard Certification shall be as follows:

- a. baccalaureate degree, and eighteen (18) semester hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock hours, or
- b. postbaccalaureate degrees, teaching experience or subject matter work experience, or a combination of the three shall reduce the eighteen (18) semester hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock hours by the following:

Degree or Experience	Hour Reduction
Master's Degree	6 semester hours or 90 clock hours
Doctorate Degree	6 semester hours or 90 clock hours
1 year teaching or subject matter work experience	3 semester hours or 45 clock hours
2 years teaching or subject matter work experience	6 semester hours or 90 clock hours
3 years teaching or subject matter work experience	9 semester hours or 135 clock hours
4 years teaching or subject matter work experience	12 semester hours or 180 clock hours,

- c. the State Board of Education shall establish a core minimum of six (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours. Under no circumstance shall the number of

hours be reduced to less than six (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours.

d. for purposes of this section:

(1) "teaching experience" shall mean full-time employment as a teacher in a public school, private school licensed or accredited by the State Board of Education, or institution of higher education, and

(2) "~~Subject~~ subject matter work experience" shall mean work experience in a field that corresponds to the area of specialization for Elementary-Secondary Certificate, Secondary Certificate or vocational-technical certificate.

~~Such requirements shall exclude all student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of subsection D of this section;~~

4. Has passed the ~~curriculum examination(s)~~ subject area portion of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title in the area of specialization for which certification is sought; ~~and~~

~~5. Either presents a document from an accredited public school district in this state offering employment in the area of specialization for which certification is sought on condition that the person enroll in an Alternative Placement Program approved by the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder of such certificate shall be considered a resident teacher for the purposes of Section 6-195 of this title.~~

~~B. Said certificate shall be renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon presentation of a document from an accredited public school district in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of specialization and a document from a teacher education institution verifying satisfactory progress in the appropriate Alternative Placement Program.~~

~~C. Persons enrolled in an Alternative Placement Program shall:~~

~~1. Have 5. Has never been denied admittance to a teacher education program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Oklahoma State Board of Education Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher education programs, nor ~~have~~ has enrolled in and subsequently failed courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of such program, ~~except those persons who hold a certificate;~~~~

~~2. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard certification requirements within three (3) years;~~

~~3. Participate in the Entry-year Assistance Program, Section ~~6-152 et seq.~~ of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as other Entry-year Assistance Program participants, ~~except those persons who hold a certificate~~~~

~~6. Has not been convicted of a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude; and~~

~~4. Document~~

~~7. a. has at least ~~two (2)~~ three (3) years of work experience which is related to the subject area of specialization if the person has only a baccalaureate degree with no postbaccalaureate work in a related area.~~

~~The State Board of Education may grant an exception to a person based on that person's ability to demonstrate specific competency in the subject area of specialization.~~

~~D. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience shall not be required of Alternative Placement Program participants for Standard Certification, and~~

~~b. is at least twenty-five (25) years of age.~~

~~B. The license granted pursuant to this section shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title. All years of teaching service as an alternatively licensed teacher shall count toward salary, fringe benefit adjustments, career status and retirement.~~

~~C. The State Board of Education shall administer an Alternative Teacher Assistance Program pursuant to Section 2 of this act to individuals granted an alternative teaching license pursuant to this section. Participation in the Alternative Teacher Assistance Program by an alternatively licensed teacher shall satisfy the requirement to participate in the residency program pursuant to Section 6-195 of this title.~~

~~D. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of Education shall grant a standard teaching certificate to an individual who:~~

~~1. Holds an alternative teaching license;~~

~~2. Has passed the professional education portion of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title;~~

~~3. Has been recommended by the alternative teacher assistance committee appointed pursuant to Section 2 of this act; and~~

~~4. Has completed an Alternative Placement Program as provided in subsection A of this section or a Teacher Institute as provided in Section 3 of this act.~~

~~E. The State Board of Education shall ~~promulgate~~ adopt rules authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished~~

qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be required to meet standard certification. Any such adjunct teachers shall be limited to ~~ninety (90)~~ one hundred eighty (180) clock hours per semester.

F. Each teacher education institution shall provide the Office of Accountability an annual report of information specified by the Office of Accountability regarding participation in the Alternative Placement Program.

G. The State Board of Education shall not accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education program of any institution of higher education in this state that has not made a commitment to, and begun implementation of, Alternative Placement Programs in at least four areas of specialization, including mathematics, science and a foreign language, whereby individuals who meet the criteria of ~~subsections~~ subsection A ~~and C~~ of this section are:

1. Admitted without further qualification; and

2. Offered the opportunity to complete the Standard Certification course requirements set forth in subsection A of this section during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year of teaching under the Alternative Placement Program. Provided, however, any person seeking Alternative Placement shall be permitted to take necessary courses during regular semesters if offered.

H. The criteria specified in subsection G of this section can be met through a cooperative arrangement entered into by two or more institutions of higher education.

I. Individuals enrolled in the Alternative Placement Program on the effective date of this act shall be granted an alternative teaching license or a standard certificate if the individual meets the eligibility requirements pursuant to this act.

J. The State Department of Education shall establish an alternative certification data information system and provide an annual report on or before December 31 to the members of the Senate, House of Representatives, and the Governor which shall include annual and cumulative data comparisons when possible for the following information:

1. The number of individuals who apply for certification and are licensed and certified pursuant to this section;

2. The number of individuals who apply for certification and are licensed and certified pursuant to Section 6-202 of this title;

3. The number of individuals who appeal to the State Board and the outcome;

4. The subject areas and types (elementary-secondary, secondary, or vocational-technical) of licenses and certificates granted;

5. The number of licenses and certificates granted in teaching shortage areas;

6. The employing school districts, including type of districts (urban, suburban, or rural);

7. Retention rates;

8. Achievements including National Board certification and other special honors or awards;

9. Demographic data including range of age, gender, race, and areas of employment prior to teaching; and

10. Any other information the Department deems pertinent.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.4 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The State Department of Education shall administer an Alternative Teacher Assistance Program. Such program shall be developed in consultation with the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher

Preparation and the district boards of education. Such program shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Guidelines for alternatively licensed teacher positions in school districts;
2. Guidelines for the appointment and functions of the alternative teacher assistance committee;
3. Requirements and guidelines for selection and appointment of mentor teachers; and
4. An appropriate professional development program for an alternatively licensed teacher.

B. For purposes of this act, the alternative teacher assistance committee shall be composed of:

1. The principal or an assistant principal of the employing school or an administrator designated by the district board;
2. A mentor teacher;
3. A teacher who has received national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and is employed at the same site as the licensee, if available; and
4. An individual designated by the State Department of Education.

C. Upon hiring an alternatively licensed teacher, a district board of education shall appoint an alternative teacher assistance committee which shall have the following duties:

1. Meet with the alternatively licensed teacher as may be required by the State Board of Education;
2. Work with the alternatively licensed teacher to assist in all matters concerning classroom management and professional development;
3. Provide for meaningful parental, guardian or custodian input as one criterion in evaluating the alternatively licensed teacher's performance; and

4. Make recommendations to the State Board as to whether the alternatively licensed teacher should be issued a certificate upon completion of one (1) school year of teaching service, or whether such teacher shall be required to complete a second year as an alternatively licensed teacher. In the event a second year is required, the committee shall make specific recommendations for the teacher's professional development needs. The committee's recommendation to the Board after completion of the second year shall be for either certification or noncertification.

D. The State Department of Education shall designate personnel to coordinate the alternative teacher assistance program and serve as a resource to alternatively licensed teachers.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.5 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall adopt criteria for approval of entities authorized to provide Teacher Institutes pursuant to this section. Such entities may include but are not limited to public school districts, public or private higher education institutions or other approved organizations. The Teacher Institutes shall offer a streamlined, concentrated curriculum, not exceeding one hundred twenty (120) hours, for preparing and orienting persons who are licensed to teach pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-122.3 or 6-202 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Completion of any competency examinations administered by the Commission shall not be part of the Teacher Institute curriculum or evaluation. Entities authorized to provide Teacher Institutes may charge participants reasonable fees. The Commission shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of this section.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY Section 8, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 62, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-187), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-187. A. A competency examination shall be adopted by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation for the general education, professional education and various subject areas and grade levels for purposes of ensuring academic achievement and competency of each teacher candidate or teacher in the subject area the person is seeking licensure or certification to teach which shall also include licensure or certification as an administrator, as prescribed by the State Board of Education.

The Commission, consistent with the purposes of this section, shall promulgate rules and procedures to guarantee the confidentiality of examinations.

B. No teacher candidate shall be eligible for licensing until successfully completing the general education and subject area portions of the competency examination. No licensed teacher shall be eligible for certification until successfully completing the professional education portion of the competency examination. Certification shall be limited to areas of approval in which the licensed or certified teacher has successfully completed the examination. Testing for certification for subjects in which a teacher candidate or teacher is seeking a minor teaching assignment or an endorsement to teach shall be limited to the specific subject area test.

A teacher candidate or teacher may take the general education, professional education or subject area portions of the examination subject to any limit imposed by the Commission.

C. A teacher may be certified in as many areas as the teacher meets the necessary requirements provided by law and has successfully completed the subject area portion of the examination.

D. The Commission shall offer the ~~first~~ competency examination ~~beginning July 1, 1997, but no later than October 1, 1997.~~ ~~Thereafter, the examination shall be offered~~ at least four times per calendar year on dates to be established by the Commission.

E. Nothing in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act shall restrict the right of the State Board of Education to issue an emergency or provisional certificate, as needed. Provided, however, prior to the issuance of an emergency certificate, the local district shall document substantial efforts to employ a teacher who holds a provisional or standard certificate or who is licensed in the teaching profession. In the event a district is unable to hire an individual meeting this criteria, the district shall document efforts to employ an individual with a provisional or standard certificate or with a license in another curricular area with academic preparation in the field of need. Only after these alternatives have been exhausted shall the district be allowed to employ an individual meeting minimum standards as established by the State Board of Education for the issuance of emergency certificates.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY Section 11, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-190), as last amended by Section 2 of Enrolled House Bill No. 1253 of the 1st Session of the 48th Oklahoma Legislature, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified or licensed to teach by the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided by law.

B. The Board shall issue a license to teach to any person who:

1. ~~Has~~

a. has successfully completed the teacher education program required by the State Board of Education prior to July 1, 1997, and the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation beginning July 1, 1997~~+~~,

~~2. Has~~

b. has graduated from an accredited institution of higher education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;1

~~3. Has~~

c. has met all other requirements as may be established by the Board;1

~~4. Has~~

d. has made the necessary application and paid the ~~curriculum examination fee as prescribed by the State Board of Education prior to July 1, 1997, and beginning July 1, 1997, paid the~~ competency examination fee in an amount and as prescribed by the Commission. ~~All monies received by the Board or Commission from examination fees shall be deposited to the appropriate Revolving Fund created in Section 6-191 of this title;~~1

~~5. Has~~

e. has successfully completed the general education and subject area portion of the competency examination in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act; required in Section 6-187 of this title, and

~~6. Has~~

f. has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation as well as a national fingerprint-based criminal history record provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue a temporary license which shall be effective until receipt of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person applying for a license

shall be responsible for the cost of the criminal history records; or

2. Has met the requirements for licensure pursuant to Section 6-122.3 or 6-202 of this title.

C. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person who:

1. ~~Holds~~

a. holds a license to teach in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act~~†, L~~

~~2. Has~~

b. has served a minimum of one (1) school year as a resident teacher~~†, L~~

~~3. Has~~

c. has successfully completed the professional education portion of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title,

d. has made the necessary application and paid the certification fee as prescribed by the Board~~†, L~~ and

~~4. Has~~

e. has been recommended for certification by the residency committee; or

~~5. 2.~~ Holds an out-of-state a certificate issued by another state or jurisdiction and meets standards set by the Board. The State Department of Education in consultation with the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall determine the states and jurisdictions that require tests for certification of teachers similar to those required by this state. Teachers who passed the tests required by and earned certification from such states or jurisdictions shall be exempt from the competency examination requirement of Section 6-187 of this title.

D. If a resident teacher is a graduate of an out-of-state institution of higher education, the recommendation of the residency committee shall be made to the State Board of Education.

E. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional development requirements prescribed by ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY Section 25, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 6-202), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-202. A. Beginning ~~July 1, 1997~~ November 1, 2001, ~~there shall be created a the~~ "Teacher Competency Review Panel" ~~to~~ shall make recommendations to the State Board of Education for the licensure and certification of ~~people~~ applicants who have not graduated from an approved teacher education program in this state, ~~or~~ who have never held a standard teaching certificate in this state, ~~or~~ who are not currently certified to teach in another state, who are not pursuing licensure and certification pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-122.3 of this title, and who have outstanding career or academic accomplishments that qualify them for teaching without fulfilling any other requirements except completion of the Teacher Institute as provided in Section 3 of this act. ~~No person shall be certified to teach pursuant to the provisions of this section unless the person holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education, has successfully completed the required competency examination, and has been assessed by and received a favorable recommendation from the Teacher Competency Review Panel~~ The Panel shall evaluate the applicant's qualifications and career accomplishments and shall recommend to the State Board of Education whether the applicant should be licensed. No person shall be licensed to teach pursuant to this section unless

the person has successfully completed the subject area portion of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title.

B. Applicants who are licensed pursuant to this section shall receive certification upon completion of one (1) school year of teaching, successful completion of the professional education portion of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title, and completion of a Teacher Institute as provided in Section 3 of this act, if the State Board of Education has no cause for denying certification.

C. Applicants for licensure or certification who do not receive a favorable recommendation from the Panel may appeal to the State Board of Education.

D. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules no later than September 30, 2001, setting out the procedures for operation of the Panel and appeal to the State Board.

E. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require candidates pursuing licensure and certification pursuant to Section 6-122.3 of this title to be evaluated by the Panel; provided, further, that nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an applicant who did not receive a favorable recommendation from the Panel before or after the effective date of this act from pursuing licensure and certification pursuant to Section 6-122.3 of this title or appealing to the State Board.

F. The members of the Teacher Competency Review Panel shall be selected by the State Board of Education from a list of candidates supplied by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation. The Teacher Competency Review Panel shall consist of ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) members, one of whom shall be a school superintendent, and one of whom shall have subject matter expertise in the subject area in which the applicant is seeking licensure or certification and who shall serve on an ad hoc basis.

~~C.~~ G. The State Board of Education shall assess candidates seeking certification to teach through the recommendation of the Teacher Competency Review Panel fees for the service in an amount sufficient to fully fund the duties of the Teacher Competency Review Panel.

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."

Passed the House of Representatives the 18th day of April, 2001.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2001.

Presiding Officer of the Senate