CS for EHB 2625

THE STATE SENATE
Monday, April 8, 2002

Committee Substitute for
ENGROSSED
House Bill No. 2625

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 2625 - By: EDDINS of the House and FISHER of the Senate.

[schools – joint study – school psychologists and speech pathologists – mathematics teachers for grade six – effective date – emergency]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-189.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-189.1. A. Beginning July 1, 2000, no school district shall employ any teacher to teach mathematics in grades seven or eight, unless the teacher is licensed or certified to teach middle or secondary level mathematics or has received middle level endorsement pursuant to subsection B of this section. A school district may employ a teacher without such a license, certificate, or endorsement until September 1, 2003, if the teacher became licensed or certified to teach prior to September 1, 1999.

B. Any teacher who became licensed or certified to teach prior to September 1, 1999, does not have middle or secondary level certification in mathematics, and is serving in a school as a

(Bold face denotes Committee Amendments)

mathematics teacher for grades seven or eight shall be required to obtain middle level certification or middle level endorsement before September 1, 2003. For such teachers, middle level certification or middle level endorsement may be obtained as follows:

1. Middle level mathematics certification – A teacher may obtain middle level certification by successfully completing the appropriate Oklahoma Subject Area Test for middle level mathematics administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation. The teacher shall not be required to take the Oklahoma Professional Teacher Examination for secondary students administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation. A teacher granted middle level certification pursuant to this paragraph shall be entitled to teach mathematics in grades seven and eight for high school graduation credit; and

2. Middle level endorsement – A teacher may obtain a middle level endorsement by successfully completing a professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation. Any professional development institute developed pursuant to this paragraph shall meet the criteria as established in subsection G of this section. A teacher granted middle level endorsement pursuant to this paragraph shall not be entitled to teach mathematics for high school graduation credit.

C. Any teacher serving in a school as a mathematics teacher for grade six may obtain middle level endorsement by successfully completing a professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed pursuant to this section. Such teacher shall be eligible to participate in a professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation one time free of charge.

D. Any teacher seeking middle level certification or middle level endorsement pursuant to subsection B of this section shall be eligible to take the Oklahoma Subject Area Test in middle level mathematics one time free of charge after July 1, 2000, or participate in a professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation one time free of charge after July 1, 2000.

~~D.~~ E. A teacher who is granted middle level certification in mathematics, pursuant to subsection B of this section, may teach grade nine only if the teacher successfully completes the Oklahoma Professional Teacher Examination for secondary students.

~~E.~~ F. A teacher who is granted middle level endorsement pursuant to subsection B or C of this section may teach mathematics courses in grades seven or eight for high school credit only if the teacher has completed a minimum of twenty-four college credit

semester hours of mathematics as specified by the State Department of Education.

~~F.~~ G. Any teacher who became licensed or certified to teach prior to September 1, 1999, did not have middle or secondary level certification in mathematics and successfully completed the appropriate Oklahoma Subject Area Test for middle level mathematics between July 1, 1999, and July 1, 2000, shall be granted a middle level certificate pursuant to subsection B of this section.

~~G.~~ H. 1. Any professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed pursuant to this section and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

a. consist of a minimum of thirty (30) clock hours,

b. be competency based,

c. emphasize effective learning practices,

d. require collaboration among participants, and

e. require each participant to prepare a work product which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant;

2. Any professional development institute in middle level mathematics developed pursuant to this section and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall be chosen through a competitive bid process, be reviewed by a professional

development committee and other constituencies, and be subject to peer review. Invitations to bid for a professional development institute shall be open to any public or private entity.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-205 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The State Board of Education and the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall conduct a joint study to compare the licensing requirements for school psychologists and speech pathologists to the National Board teacher certification requirements established by the National Board for Professional Teacher Standards. The Board and the Commission shall submit a report outlining their findings, including the potential cost of including school psychologists and speech pathologists in the Education Leadership Oklahoma Program, to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by December 31, 2002.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2002.

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.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 4-1-02 - DO PASS, As Amended.