

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

HOUSE BILL HB1747

By: Cargill

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; creating the Teachers Leadership Preparation Act; authorizing the Secretary of Education to establish the Teacher Leadership Preparation Program; stating purposes of the Program; directing the Secretary of Education to create a College of Leadership; stating duties of the Secretary of Education; directing the applicant review committee to select a certain number of teachers for admission to the Program; stating qualifications of selected teachers; requiring monthly workshop attendance; providing a bonus for selected teachers; prohibiting bonus from being included in certain calculations; allowing selected teachers to utilize professional days for workshop attendance; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. 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:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Teachers Leadership Preparation Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-205.1 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary of Education is authorized to establish the Teacher Leadership Preparation Program.

B. The purpose of the Program is to provide leadership training to teachers who will become the next educational leaders in our state. The Secretary of Education shall create a College of

Leadership as the vehicle to provide the leadership training to teachers. The training shall focus on issues a teacher faces both inside and outside the classroom. The Program shall also reward teachers who are acquiring leadership skills by participating in the Program.

C. To fulfill the objectives of the Program, the Secretary of Education shall:

1. Inform teachers of the College and the bonus available to teachers participating in the Program;

2. Collect and review applications to the Program from interested teachers; and

3. Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of identifying and admitting teachers to the College.

D. The applicant review committee shall select up to fifty (50) elementary level teachers and fifty (50) secondary level teachers with three (3) to six (6) years of classroom experience in public or private schools in this state for the 2001-2002 class and each year thereafter to participate in the Program. Teachers who are selected shall have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in teaching and meet any other requirements established by the committee.

E. Teachers selected for the Program shall be required to attend monthly workshops for one (1) year.

F. All teachers selected for the Program shall receive a bonus in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) annually no later than January 31 after admission to the Program. Each teacher shall continue to receive the bonus for five (5) years after admission to the Program and as long as the teacher is still a full-time classroom teacher. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

G. Subject to district board of education policy, teachers who have been admitted to the Program shall be allowed to utilize their five (5) professional days for attending Program workshops.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

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.

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