

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1136

By: Greenwood, Sullivan and
Dank of the House

and

Wilcoxson of the Senate

(schools - teachers - professional development -
codification - effective date -

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 6-189.2 of Title 70, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Beginning July 1, 2006, no school district shall employ any
teacher to teach English, science or social studies in grades seven
or eight, unless the teacher is licensed or certified to teach
middle or secondary level English, science or social studies or has
received middle level endorsement pursuant to subsection B of this
section, provided, this section shall not apply to teachers teaching
in kindergarten through eighth grade school districts. A school
district may employ a teacher without such a license, certificate,
or endorsement after July 1, 2006, if the teacher became licensed or
certified to teach prior to September 1, 2006, and the State Board
of Education has determined that federal funds received pursuant to
the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (ESEA), P.L. No.
107-110, also known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, are not
available to fund the requirements of subsection B of this section.
Upon the receipt of federal funds to be utilized for the appropriate
Oklahoma Subject Area Tests and professional development institutes
specified in subsection B of this section, the State Board of

Education shall set a date for compliance with the licensure and certification requirement of this subsection.

B. Any teacher who became licensed or certified to teach prior to September 1, 2004, does not have middle or secondary level certification in English, science or social studies, and is serving in a school as an English, science or social studies teacher for grades seven or eight shall be required to obtain middle level certification or middle level endorsement before September 1, 2006. For such teachers, middle level certification or middle level endorsement may be obtained as follows:

1. Middle level English, science or social studies certification - A teacher may obtain middle level certification by successfully completing the appropriate Oklahoma Subject Area Test for middle level in the appropriate subject area administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation; and

2. Middle level endorsement - A teacher may obtain a middle level endorsement by successfully completing a professional development institute in middle level English, science or social studies 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 E of this section. A teacher granted middle level endorsement pursuant to this paragraph shall not be entitled to teach the subject area of endorsement for high school graduation credit.

C. Any teacher serving in a school as an English, science or social studies teacher for grade six may obtain middle level endorsement by successfully completing a professional development institute in the appropriate middle level subject area developed pursuant to this section. Such teacher shall be eligible to participate in a professional development institute in the appropriate middle level subject area 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 English, science or social studies one time free of charge after July 1, 2004, or participate in a professional development institute in the appropriate middle level subject area developed and administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation one time free of charge after July 1, 2004.

E. 1. Any professional development institute in middle level English, science or social studies 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 English, science or social studies 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. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 3rd day of March, 2004.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2004.

Presiding Officer of the Senate