

SB 806

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THE STATE SENATE
Monday, February 24, 2003

Senate Bill No. 806
As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 806 - By: WILLIAMS of the Senate and McINTYRE of the House.

[schools - guidelines for mentor teacher selection - effective date - emergency]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-195, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-195. A. The State Department of Education shall administer a residency program which shall be approved by the State Board of Education. Such program shall be developed in consultation with the teacher education institutions, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the district boards of education. Such program shall include, but not be limited to:

- 1. Guidelines and assignments for resident teacher positions in the school districts;
- 2. Requirements and guidelines for selection and appointment of mentor teachers which must include any requirements specified in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act. The guidelines shall provide that a trained mentor, if available, shall have priority for selection over a mentor certified in the same subject as the resident teacher;

1 3. Guidelines for the appointment and functions of a residency
2 committee; and

3 4. An appropriate professional development program for the
4 resident teacher.

5 B. Except as otherwise provided in the Oklahoma Teacher
6 Preparation Act, no person shall be certified to teach in the
7 accredited schools of this state, unless such person:

8 1. Has completed at least one (1) school year of teaching
9 service as a resident teacher in the residency program as provided
10 in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act;

11 2. Has been recommended for certification by the appointed
12 residency committee after completion of not less than one (1) or
13 more than two (2) school years of resident teaching service; and

14 3. Has successfully completed the curriculum examination as
15 prescribed by the Board prior to July 1, 1997, and the competency
16 examination as prescribed by the Commission beginning July 1, 1997.

17 C. Any person who has been issued a license to teach by the
18 Board may be employed as a resident teacher by an accredited school
19 upon appointment by the district board of education or by a private
20 or public provider of early childhood education programs as
21 authorized in Section 11-103.7 of this title.

22 D. Upon placement of a licensed teacher in a resident teacher
23 position at a public school, the district board of education shall

1 appoint the residency committee members, as prescribed in the
2 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, who shall have the following
3 duties:

4 1. Meet with the resident teacher as may be required by the
5 Board;

6 2. Work with the resident teacher to assist in all matters
7 concerning classroom management and professional development for
8 that teacher;

9 3. Provide for meaningful parental, guardian or custodian input
10 as one criterion in evaluating the resident teacher's performance;
11 and

12 4. Upon completion of one (1) school year of residency, make
13 recommendations to the Board and the preparing institution of higher
14 education as to whether the resident teacher should be issued a
15 certificate or whether such resident teacher shall be required to
16 serve as a resident teacher for one (1) additional school year. In
17 the event a resident teacher serves a second year, the
18 recommendation of the residency committee to the Board and the
19 institution of higher education after the second year shall be for
20 either certification or noncertification.

21 Upon recommendation from the residency committee for
22 noncertification or an additional year in the residency program,
23 such residency committee shall, upon request of the resident

1 teacher, supply a list to the resident teacher of the reasons for
2 such recommendation. The list of reasons shall remain confidential,
3 except as otherwise provided by the resident teacher.

4 In the event a resident teacher is required to serve an
5 additional year in the residency program, the resident teacher shall
6 not be required to be under the supervision of the same residency
7 committee, or any member of the committee, which supervised the
8 resident teacher during the initial year in the program; and

9 5. In the event the committee recommendation to the Board and
10 the institution of higher education is for certification, a
11 residency committee shall also recommend a professional development
12 program for the resident teacher, designed to strengthen the
13 resident teacher's teaching skills in any area identified by the
14 committee.

15 All resident years shall count toward salary, fringe benefit
16 adjustments, career status and retirement.

17 E. Upon employment of a licensed teacher in a resident teacher
18 position by a private or public provider of early childhood
19 education programs pursuant to a contract as authorized in Section
20 11-103.7 of this title, the district board of education shall
21 appoint the residency committee members, as prescribed in the
22 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act. The residency committee members

1 shall have the same duties as prescribed in subsection D of this
2 section.

3 F. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring more
4 than one (1) year of employment at the resident level before a
5 standard certificate can be issued to a resident teacher.

6 The professional development program shall commence with the
7 residency year and shall require continuing education throughout the
8 career of a teacher.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2003.

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

14 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-10-03 - DO
15 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.