

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE BILL HB1454

By: Blackwell

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-190, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 236, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2002, Section 6-190), which relates to teacher licensure and certification; deleting certain requirements for persons holding an out-of-state certificate; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-190, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 236, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2002, Section 6-190), 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 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 graduated from an accredited institution of higher education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;

3. Has met all other requirements as may be established by the Board;

4. Has made the necessary application and paid the competency examination fee in an amount and as prescribed by the Commission;

5. Has successfully completed the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

6. Beginning November 1, 2001, 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.

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

1. a. holds a license to teach in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act,
- b. has served a minimum of one (1) school year as a resident teacher,
- c. has made the necessary application and paid the certification fee as prescribed by the Board, and
- d. has been recommended for certification by the residency committee;

2. Holds ~~an out-of-state~~ a certificate and meets standards set by the Board from a state that reciprocates by issuing, without any restrictions, a certificate to any person with a certificate to teach in Oklahoma; or

3. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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 the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

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

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.

49-1-5931

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