

CS for EHB 1235

1 THE STATE SENATE
2 Monday, April 11, 2005

3 Committee Substitute for
4 ENGROSSED
5 House Bill No. 1235

6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1235 - By: DeWITT,
7 DANK and WESSELHOFT of the House and RILEY of the Senate.

8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section
9 6-182, which relates to the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation
10 Act; clarifying language; modifying process for selection of
11 mentor teacher; prohibiting consideration of certain
12 membership criteria; specifying certain criteria; providing
13 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-182, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6-182. As used in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act:

18 1. "Board" means the State Board of Education;

19 2. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
20 Preparation;

21 3. "State Regents" means the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
22 Education;

23 4. "Licensed teacher" means any person who holds a valid
24 license to teach, issued by the Board in accordance with the
25 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act and the rules of the Board;

1 5. "Professional development program" means the program
2 mandated by the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for the continuous
3 improvement and enrichment of the certified and licensed teachers of
4 this state;

5 6. "Teacher education professional development committee" means
6 the committee created in Section 6-186 of this title for the
7 continuous improvement and enrichment of higher education faculty in
8 teacher education programs in institutions of higher education;

9 7. "Department" means the State Department of Education;

10 8. "Residency committee" means a committee in a ~~local~~ school
11 district for the purpose of reviewing the teaching performance of a
12 resident teacher and making recommendations to the Board and the
13 preparing institution of higher education regarding certification of
14 the resident teacher. A residency committee shall consist of a
15 mentor teacher, the principal or an assistant principal of the
16 employing school or an administrator designated by the ~~local~~
17 district board and a teacher educator in a college or school of
18 education of an institution of higher education, or an educator in a
19 department or school outside the institution's teacher education
20 unit. Provided that, if available, qualified mentor teachers shall
21 have expertise in the teaching field of the resident teacher and, if
22 possible, the higher education members of the residency committee
23 shall have expertise and experience in the teaching field of the

1 resident teacher. However, in all cases, at least one member of the
2 residency committee shall have expertise and experience in the
3 teaching field of the resident teacher;

4 9. "Teacher" means a person defined as a teacher in Section 1-
5 116 of this title;

6 10. "Resident teacher" means any licensed teacher who is
7 employed in an accredited school to serve as a teacher under the
8 guidance and assistance of a mentor teacher and residency committee.
9 ~~Any such person~~ The resident teacher shall have completed the
10 program of the college or school of education of the accredited
11 institution of higher education from which the person has been
12 graduated, and shall have successfully completed the competency
13 examination in areas of approval in which the resident teacher seeks
14 certification;

15 11. "Certified teacher" means any teacher who has been issued a
16 certificate by the Board in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher
17 Preparation Act and the rules of the Board;

18 12. "Mentor teacher" means any teacher holding a standard
19 certificate who is employed in a school district to serve as a
20 teacher and who has been appointed to provide guidance and
21 assistance to a resident teacher employed by the school district. A
22 mentor teacher shall be a classroom teacher and have a minimum of

1 two (2) years of classroom teaching experience as a certified
2 teacher.

3 A mentor teacher shall be selected by the principal from a list
4 ~~submitted by the bargaining unit where one exists. In the absence~~
5 ~~of a bargaining agent, the teachers shall elect the names to be~~
6 submitted of qualified teacher volunteers. After compilation of the
7 list, the principal shall provide opportunity for input from the
8 bargaining agent, where one exists. In the absence of a bargaining
9 agent, a mentor teacher shall be selected by the principal from a
10 list of teachers who have submitted their names for that purpose.
11 Membership or nonmembership in a professional teacher organization
12 shall not be considered as a factor in selecting a mentor teacher.
13 No teacher may serve as a mentor teacher for more than one resident
14 teacher at a time. When possible, a mentor teacher shall have
15 successfully completed a mentor teacher professional development
16 institute and be assigned to the same school site and have similar
17 certification as the resident teacher;

18 13. "Higher education faculty" means any individual who is
19 employed in a teaching capacity in an institution of higher
20 education, approved or accredited by the Commission for the
21 preparation of education personnel; and

22 14. "Competency examination" means the assessment required in
23 the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for licensure and certification

1 as a teacher and shall consist of tests over general education,
2 professional education and subject areas as defined by the Oklahoma
3 Commission for Teacher Preparation.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2005.

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

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 4-4-05 - DO PASS,
10 As Amended.