

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 2101

By: Jolley of the Senate
and
Denney of the House

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6 [schools - alternative certification - summer
7 teaching institute - codification -
8 effective date]
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10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

11 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.4 of Title 70, unless
13 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 A. By June 1, 2009, the State Board of Education in
15 collaboration with one or more institutions of higher education in
16 this state shall develop an integrative program to streamline the
17 licensure process for alternative teacher certification. Such
18 program will allow candidates to participate in an intensive summer
19 teaching institute that will prepare candidates for success as
20 teachers in the classroom. In its implementation of this section
21 the State Board of Education shall seek to partner with an
22 organization that has more than fifteen (15) years of experience in
23 recruiting and training a diverse, highly selective corps of top
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1 recent college graduates and professionals who commit two (2) years
2 to teach in low-income communities across the nation.

3 B. The summer teaching institute developed by the Board
4 pursuant to this section shall apply toward the semester hours or
5 clock hours as required by paragraph 3 of subsection A of Section 6-
6 122.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Board shall
7 determine the equivalent amount of hours provided by the institute
8 that will apply toward the required hours. Candidates for
9 alternative certification shall continue to be subject to the
10 requirements set forth in Section 6-122.3 of Title 70 of the
11 Oklahoma Statutes, except as provided for in this subsection.

12 C. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement
13 the provisions of this section.

14 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.5 of Title 70, unless
16 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. The State Board of Education shall issue a one-year,
18 nonrenewable secondary or middle level license to teach to any
19 person who has attained certification by an alternative teacher
20 certification organization as set forth in subsection C of this
21 section and has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma criminal
22 history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation as
23 well as a national criminal history record check as defined in
24 Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon receipt of

1 the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue a
2 temporary license which shall be effective until receipt of the
3 national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
4 applying for a license shall be responsible for the cost of the
5 criminal history records.

6 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6-195 of Title 70
7 of the Oklahoma Statutes, teachers issued a license pursuant to this
8 section shall not be subject to the requirements of the residency
9 program, but shall participate in the mentoring program provided by
10 the alternative teacher certification organization as set forth in
11 subsection C of this section. Upon successful completion of such
12 mentoring program, the teacher shall be issued a certificate to
13 teach by the State Board of Education after completion of the
14 application and payment of the certification fee as prescribed by
15 the State Board of Education.

16 C. For purposes of this section, the State Board of Education
17 shall identify an alternative teacher certification organization
18 that was founded with grant funding from the United States
19 Department of Education and developed a passport to teaching
20 program, which is a certification program designed for professionals
21 who want to change careers and teach. The program requires
22 candidates to hold a bachelor's degree, pass a professional teaching
23 knowledge exam, pass a subject area exam, and pass a background
24 check. The organization provides candidates with access to

1 workshops, an experienced teacher-advisor, and optional access to
2 comprehensive subject matter refresher courses. The organization
3 also provides an intensive mentoring and induction program.

4 D. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement
5 the provisions of this section.

6 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

7 Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 2008.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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11 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
12 2008.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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