

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 HOUSE BILL 1687

By: Nations

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Section 6-182, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 280,
9 O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 6-182),
10 which relates to the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation
11 Act; modifying definitions; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
12 Section 6-195, as amended by Section 11, Chapter 434,
13 O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 6-195),
14 which relates to the residency program; requiring the
15 program to include certain training for the residency
16 committee; deleting obsolete language; specifying
17 duties of the residency committee; requiring
18 additional release time for mentor teachers; updating
19 statutory language; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-
20 200, which relates to professional development
21 institutes; deleting obsolete language; updating
22 statutory language; directing the Oklahoma Commission
23 for Teacher Preparation to develop and offer
24 professional development institutes for teacher
induction and mentor training; specifying criteria
for training; requiring the Commission to promulgate
rules, develop a state plan, and issue an annual
report; directing the Commission to select certain
schools for piloting the initial phase of the
training; specifying conditions for participation;
giving priority to certain schools; providing an
effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-182, as
3 amended by Section 1, Chapter 280, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006,
4 Section 6-182), is amended to read as follows:

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

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

7 2. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
8 Preparation;

9 3. "State Regents" means the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
10 Education;

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

14 5. "Professional development program" means the program
15 mandated by the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for the continuous
16 improvement and enrichment of the certified and licensed teachers of
17 this state;

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

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

23 8. "Residency committee" means a committee in a school district
24 for the purpose of reviewing the teaching performance of a resident

1 teacher and making recommendations to the Board and the preparing
2 institution of higher education regarding certification of the
3 resident teacher. The residency committee shall also provide the
4 resident teacher support and assistance in all matters concerning
5 classroom management and professional development for that teacher.

6 A residency committee shall consist of a mentor teacher, the
7 principal or an assistant principal of the employing school or an
8 administrator designated by the district board and a teacher
9 educator in a college or school of education of an institution of
10 higher education, or an educator in a department or school outside
11 the institution's teacher education unit. ~~Provided that, if~~ If
12 available, qualified mentor teachers shall have expertise in the
13 teaching field of the resident teacher and, if possible, the higher
14 education members of the residency committee shall have expertise
15 and experience in the teaching field of the resident teacher.

16 However, in all cases, at least one member of the residency
17 committee shall have expertise and experience in the teaching field
18 of the resident teacher. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year,
19 each member of the residency committee shall have participated in a
20 mentor teacher professional development institute offered by the
21 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation as provided for in
22 Section 6-200 of this title;

23 9. "Teacher" means a person defined as a teacher in Section 1-
24 116 of this title;

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

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

12 12. "Mentor teacher" means any teacher holding a standard
13 certificate who is employed in a school district to serve as a
14 teacher and who has been appointed to provide guidance and
15 assistance to a resident teacher employed by the school district. A
16 mentor teacher shall be a classroom teacher and have a minimum of
17 two (2) years of classroom teaching experience as a certified
18 teacher.

19 A mentor teacher shall be selected by the principal from a list
20 of qualified teacher volunteers who have submitted their names for
21 that purpose. After compilation of the list, the principal shall
22 provide opportunity for input from the bargaining agent, where one
23 exists. Membership or nonmembership in a professional teacher
24 organization shall not be considered as a factor in selecting a

1 mentor teacher. No teacher may serve as a mentor teacher for more
2 than one resident teacher at a time. Beginning with the 2009-2010
3 school year, a mentor teacher shall have participated in a mentor
4 teacher professional development institute and ongoing professional
5 development offered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
6 Preparation as provided for in Section 6-200 of this title. When
7 possible, a mentor teacher shall ~~have successfully completed a~~
8 ~~mentor teacher professional development institute and~~ be assigned to
9 the same school site and have similar certification as the resident
10 teacher;

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

15 14. "Competency examination" means the assessment required in
16 the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for licensure and certification
17 as a teacher and shall consist of tests over general education,
18 professional education and subject areas as defined by the Oklahoma
19 Commission for Teacher Preparation.

20 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-195, as
21 amended by Section 11, Chapter 434, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006,
22 Section 6-195), is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 6-195. A. The State Department of Education shall
24 administer a residency program which shall be approved by the State

1 Board of Education. ~~Such~~ The program shall be developed in
2 consultation with the teacher education institutions, the Oklahoma
3 Commission for Teacher Preparation and the district boards of
4 education. ~~Such~~ The program shall include, but not be limited to:

5 1. Guidelines and assignments for resident teacher positions in
6 the school districts;

7 2. Requirements and guidelines for selection and appointment of
8 mentor teachers which must include any requirements specified in the
9 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act;

10 3. Guidelines for the appointment and functions of a residency
11 committee; and

12 4. Participation in a mentor teacher professional development
13 institute for the residency committee and ongoing professional
14 development for the mentor teacher and administrator assigned to a
15 residency committee; and

16 5. An appropriate professional development program for the
17 resident teacher.

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

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

24

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

4 3. Has successfully completed the ~~curriculum examination as~~
5 ~~prescribed by the Board prior to July 1, 1997, and the~~ competency
6 examination as prescribed by the Commission ~~beginning July 1, 1997.~~

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

12 D. Upon placement of a licensed teacher in a resident teacher
13 position at a public school, the district board of education shall
14 appoint the residency committee members, as prescribed in the
15 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, ~~who~~. The residency committee
16 shall meet with the resident teacher during the first year, and in
17 the case of resident teachers required to serve an additional year
18 during the second year, for the purpose of reviewing the teaching
19 performance of the resident teacher and making recommendations to
20 the Board and the higher education institution regarding
21 certification. In addition the mentor teacher and administrator
22 assigned to the residency committee shall meet with the resident
23 teacher for at least an additional year for the purpose of providing

1 ongoing support and professional assistance to the resident teacher.

2 The residency committee shall have the following duties:

3 1. Meet with the resident teacher as may be required by the
4 Board. The mentor teacher shall be granted at least an additional
5 release period during the school day to meet and work with the
6 resident teacher;

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

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

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

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

1 teacher, supply a list to the resident teacher of the reasons for
2 ~~such~~ the recommendation. The list of reasons shall remain
3 confidential, 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 of the resident teacher in any
14 area identified by the 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
23 shall have the same duties as prescribed in subsection D of this
24 section.

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

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

7 ~~G. For the 2003-04 school year, if the district board of
8 education is unable to find a teacher willing to serve as a mentor
9 teacher, the district may leave the position of mentor teacher on
10 the residency committee unfilled. If the district leaves the
11 position unfilled, the remaining members of the residency committee
12 may carry out the duties of the committee.~~

13 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-200, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 6-200. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
16 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to
17 develop and administer training for residency committees and
18 training for professional development through professional
19 development institutes. Included in the professional development
20 institutes training shall be technology training. Professional
21 development institutes shall be accepted by the State Board of
22 Education for professional development purposes and shall be defined
23 as continuing education experiences which consist of a minimum of
24 thirty (30) clock hours. The institutes shall be competency-based,

1 emphasize effective learning practices, require collaboration among
2 participants, and require each participant to prepare a work product
3 which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant. Any
4 state professional development institutes administered by the
5 Commission shall be chosen through a competitive bid process and if
6 funds are available subject to peer review. The Commission, prior
7 to offering any professional development institute, shall promulgate
8 rules related to administering state professional development
9 institutes.

10 B. ~~With the funds appropriated in House Bill No. 1872 of the~~
11 ~~1st Session of the 46th Oklahoma Legislature specifically for the~~
12 ~~purpose of funding professional development institutes in intensive~~
13 ~~elementary reading, the~~ The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
14 Preparation shall develop, offer and administer professional
15 development institutes to train elementary school teachers in
16 reading education. The funds shall be used for the cost of
17 developing, administering and contracting for the professional
18 development institutes. When possible, certified reading
19 specialists shall be included as consultants. All costs of the
20 institutes shall be included in the contract price and no tuition or
21 registration fee shall be collected from teachers attending the
22 institutes. The institutes shall be offered by or through the
23 Commission. Working in conjunction with the State Department of
24 Education, the Commission shall develop a state plan for

1 administration of such institutes and shall report to the Governor
2 and the Legislature on the format of and participation in the
3 institutes. The State Department of Education shall cooperate with
4 and provide any information requested to the Oklahoma Commission for
5 Teacher Preparation as is necessary to carry out the provisions of
6 this subsection.

7 C. As additional funds become available ~~for such purpose~~, the
8 Commission shall develop and offer professional development
9 institutes in ~~mathematics~~ :

- 10 1. Mathematics for teachers in grades five through nine, ~~the~~ ;
- 11 2. The use of technology in the classroom, ~~training~~ ;
- 12 3. Training of residency committee members in teacher mentoring
13 ~~and in hands-on~~ ; and
- 14 4. Hands-on, inquiry-based science for elementary teachers.

15 ~~C.~~ D. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma
16 Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

- 17 1. Make available ~~in Fiscal Year 1999~~, a three-day follow-up
18 professional development institute for teachers who participated in
19 ~~an elementary school~~ the initial reading professional development
20 institute ~~during Fiscal Year 1998~~;
- 21 2. Provide five-day initial professional development institutes
22 in elementary school reading for elementary school teachers and
23 instructional leaders;

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1 3. Contract for an independent evaluation of the elementary
2 school reading professional development institute; and

3 4. Provide continued support of the elementary school reading
4 professional development institutes through ongoing teacher
5 development at individual school sites. Funds may be used for the
6 cost of mentor training, payment for substitute teachers, on-site
7 facilitation, and any other costs necessary to ensure improved
8 reading by students.

9 E. 1. Beginning July 1, 2007, the Oklahoma Commission for
10 Teacher Preparation shall develop and offer professional development
11 institutes that implement a research-based teacher induction and
12 mentoring training system. The institutes shall provide rigorous
13 training to residency committee members, including the mentor
14 teacher, administrator, and higher education representative, in
15 comprehensive measures to support new teachers. The institutes
16 shall be a two-phase system, providing training to all members of
17 the residency committee during the first phase and providing ongoing
18 training to the mentor teacher and administrator during the second
19 phase. The Commission shall promulgate rules related to
20 implementing and administering the teacher induction and mentor
21 training system. The Commission shall develop a state plan for
22 administration of the institutes and shall annually report to the
23 Governor and Legislature on participation in and results of the
24 institutes.

1 2. During the 2007-2008 school year the Commission shall select
2 not less than schools, including not less than one rural, one
3 suburban, and one urban school, to pilot the initial phase of the
4 teacher induction and mentor training system. The Commission shall
5 implement the system in at least one elementary school, one middle
6 school and one high school. To be eligible to participate the
7 administrator of the school shall ensure that all members of each
8 residency committee in the school will participate in all phases of
9 the training. Priority shall be given to schools that are
10 considered hard to staff or are located in high poverty areas.

11 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2007.

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

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