

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 2634

By: Kern

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter
9 185, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-190),
10 which relates to teacher licensure and certification;
11 prohibiting certain examination requirements for
12 certain teachers with out-of-state certification; and
13 declaring an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-190, as
16 last amended by Section 4, Chapter 185, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp.
17 2007, Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school
19 district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in
20 Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified or licensed
21 to teach by the State Board of Education in accordance with the
22 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for
23 by Section 6-101 of this title and by other law.

24 B. The Board shall issue a license to teach to any person who:

1 1. Has successfully completed the teacher education program
2 required by the State Board of Education prior to July 1, 1997, and
3 the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation beginning July 1,
4 1997;

5 2. Has graduated from an accredited institution of higher
6 education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;

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

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

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

13 6. Beginning November 1, 2001, has on file with the Board a
14 current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State
15 Bureau of Investigation as well as a national criminal history
16 record check as defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
17 Statutes. Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the
18 Board may issue a temporary license which shall be effective until
19 receipt of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record.
20 The person applying for a license shall be responsible for the cost
21 of the criminal history records.

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

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1 E. If a resident teacher is a graduate of an out-of-state
2 institution of higher education, the recommendation of the residency
3 committee shall be made to the State Board of Education.

4 F. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to
5 January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the
6 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional
7 development requirements prescribed by the Oklahoma Teacher
8 Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

9 G. Any person holding a valid out-of-state certificate and who
10 has ten (10) or more years of out-of-state teaching experience shall
11 not be required to complete the subject area portions of the
12 competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title to be
13 issued a certificate to teach in Oklahoma or to be considered a
14 highly qualified teacher for purposes of the Elementary and
15 Secondary Education Act of 2001 (ESEA), P.L. No. 107-110, also known
16 as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

17 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
18 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
19 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
20 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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22 51-2-8252 KB 12/18/07
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