

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1680

By: Ownbey

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7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8
9 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-204.2, as last
10 amended by Section 1, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section
11 6-204.2), which relate to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; deleting
12 certain classroom requirement; modifying requirement for bonus; directing the
13 State Board of Education to provide certain bonus to School Licensed
14 Professional Counselors; directing the Board to adopt rules to verify
15 employment and licensing status; providing for pro rata reduction of bonus;
16 limiting liability of a school district for payment of the bonuses; excluding
17 bonus from certain calculations; providing for increase in the bonus upon
18 implementation of certain conditions; providing for codification; providing an
19 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-204.2, as last amended by Section
23 1, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

24 Section 6-204.2 A. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
Preparation and the State Board of Education are authorized to establish the Education Leadership
Oklahoma program.

B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program are:

1 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about National Board certification and the
2 Education Leadership Oklahoma program scholarships and services;

3 2. Provide technical assistance and National Board certified mentors to all teachers seeking
4 National Board certification upon request;

5 3. Provide scholarships, pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and Oklahoma
6 Commission for Teacher Preparation rules, for teachers seeking National Board certification;

7 4. Provide a bonus to teachers who achieve National Board certification pursuant to the
8 Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and State Board of Education rules;

9 5. Reward teachers who achieve National Board certification without the financial support of the
10 Education Leadership Oklahoma program by awarding them the application fee and the amount of the
11 scholarship given to Education Leadership Oklahoma participants pursuant to this section and
12 commission rules; and

13 6. Provide recognition to National Board certified teachers.

14 C. To fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma
15 Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

16 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program and the scholarships and
17 services it provides to teachers seeking National Board certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts
18 toward teachers at high-poverty schools, low-achieving schools and in counties with the lowest
19 percentage of teachers who have achieved National Board certification;

20 2. Collect and review applications to the scholarship program from interested teachers;

21 3. Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of identifying scholarship recipients
22 pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program;
23 and
24

1 4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients, alternates, and teachers seeking National Board
2 certification independently receive adequate information regarding the level of commitment required to
3 acquire National Board certification.

4 D. The applicant review committee shall:

5 1. Consist of:

- 6 a. five ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the State Board of Education, at least one of
7 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if available,
- 8 b. five ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
9 Preparation, at least one of whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
10 available,
- 11 c. three ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
12 Education, at least one of whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
13 available, and
- 14 d. a chair to be designated by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Commission
15 for Teacher Preparation from among the appointed members; and

16 2. Select up to four hundred teachers each year, of whom a minimum of twenty-five percent
17 (25%) teach at schools on the school improvement list as determined by the State Board of Education
18 pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act or schools with more than fifty percent (50%) of students
19 who qualify for the free and reduced price lunch program, and the appropriate number of alternates,
20 who:

- 21 a. have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in teaching,
 - 22 b. meet all eligibility requirements for potential certification as established by the
23 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards,
- 24

- c. are employed in an Oklahoma public school, and
- d. meet other requirements of the Commission.

E. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the Legislature for the purposes of this subsection, the application fee for National Board certification shall be paid for scholarship recipients by the Commission, and scholarship recipients shall be provided a scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining National Board certification.

F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation contract with Southeastern Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain National Board certification.

G. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National Board certification process, free of charge.

H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall promulgate rules for the selection of scholarship recipients, the selection and utilization of alternates, the payment and reimbursement of application fees, and the issuance of scholarships.

I. Subject to district board of education policy or collective bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for National Board certification portfolio development. During the two (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the teacher.

1 J. The State Board of Education shall provide all teachers who attain National Board
2 certification a bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually no later than
3 January 31 for as long as they maintain their National Board certification and are ~~teaching in the~~
4 ~~classroom~~ full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public school. No school or school district shall be liable
5 for payment of bonuses pursuant to this section.

6 K. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the teacher's salary for purposes of
7 meeting the district or statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma
8 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

9 L. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the provision of the bonus pursuant
10 to this section to include, but not be limited to, a process by which a National Board certified teacher
11 will verify that:

- 12 1. The National Board certification has not lapsed; and
- 13 2. The teacher is still a full-time teacher.

14 M. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
15 incorporate the National Board certification portfolio development into all programs in education
16 leading to a master's level degree.

17 N. Upon implementation of this subsection as provided for in subsection O of this section, the
18 State Board of Education shall provide all teachers who attain National Board certification a bonus in
19 the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) annually no later than January 31 for as long as
20 they maintain their National Board certification and are full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public
21 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this section.
22 Upon implementation, the bonus provided for in this subsection shall replace the bonus provided for in
23 subsection J of this section.
24

1 O. Implementation of subsection N of this section shall be contingent upon the appropriation by
2 the Legislature of state funds for the specific purpose of implementing subsection N of this section.
3 Nothing in this section shall prevent the State Board of Education or a school district board of
4 education from utilizing private, local, or federal funds to implement subsection N of this section.

5 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as
6 Section 6-204.6 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

7 A. Subject to the availability of funds, the State Board of Education shall provide an annual
8 salary bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) no later than January 31 of each year
9 to school counselors licensed as Professional Counselors by the State Department of Health.

10 B. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the provision of the bonus pursuant to this
11 section to include, but not be limited to, a process by which a school counselor licensed as a
12 Professional Counselor may verify that:

- 13 1. The individual is still employed by a school district;
- 14 2. The licensing required in subsection A of this section has been attained and has not lapsed;

15 and

- 16 3. The individual is licensed to practice in this state.

17 C. An individual who qualifies for the bonus pursuant to this section and who is employed by a
18 school district on less than a full-time basis, shall receive a prorated bonus based on the proportionate
19 equivalency to full-time employment.

20 D. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this section.
21 The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of salary for purposes of meeting the district or
22 statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of calculating Teachers' Retirement System of
23 Oklahoma contributions or benefits.
24

1 E. The amount of the salary bonus pursuant to subsection A of this section shall be increased to
2 Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) upon implementation of subsection N of Section 6-204.2 of Title
3 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

5 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
6 safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in
7 full force from and after its passage and approval.

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