

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL 2038

6 By: Anderson

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to court reporters; amending 20 O.S.  
9 2001, Sections 1503, as last amended by Section 2,  
10 Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2005, and 1505, as amended by  
11 Section 3, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2005 (20 O.S. Supp.  
12 2009, Sections 1503 and 1505), which relate to  
13 examination for certification and licenses from other  
14 states; adding requirement for certain application;  
15 removing certain residency requirement; and providing  
16 an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1503, as  
19 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2005 (20 O.S. Supp.  
20 2009, Section 1503), is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 1503. A. Every applicant who seeks to be examined for  
22 enrollment as a certified shorthand reporter shall prove to the  
23 satisfaction of the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand  
24 Reporters that he or she:

- 25 1. Is of legal age;
- 26 2. Meets the requisite standards of ethical fitness; ~~and~~

1       3. Has at least a high school education or its equivalent; and  
2       4. Possesses a minimum level of court reporting proficiency  
3 which would allow the applicant to meet the examination requirements  
4 established in paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section. An  
5 applicant may satisfy such requirements by obtaining verification  
6 through a court reporting school official of the applicant's level  
7 of proficiency, as outlined by the test application; by passing a  
8 preliminary proficiency examination, which has been approved by the  
9 Board; or by proving that the applicant has previously held any  
10 state or national shorthand reporting certificate or license.

11       B. The examination for certification in one or more authorized  
12 methods of shorthand reporting consists of two parts, designated  
13 Part 1 and Part 2 as follows:

14       1. Part 1 consists of the test as authorized by the Supreme  
15 Court consisting of the following requirements: demonstrated  
16 proficiency in reporting testimony and proceedings at a speed of not  
17 more than two hundred (200) words per minute in taking a  
18 question-and-answer type dictation and at a speed of not more than  
19 one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in taking literary  
20 materials which shall be designed to test the ability of an  
21 applicant to accurately prepare a transcript of testimony and  
22 proceedings that is reasonably free from spelling errors. The Board  
23 may not increase or decrease such minimum speed requirement, by rule  
24 or otherwise; and

1           2. Part 2 is the Oklahoma Written Knowledge test which consists  
2 of not less than twenty-five multiple choice questions relating to  
3 Oklahoma law and court rules, duties of certified shorthand  
4 reporters, and general court procedure. The examination shall be  
5 approved by the Supreme Court. A person who has tested with the  
6 Board and successfully completed the written knowledge portion of  
7 the examination shall be allowed to retain the credit for that  
8 portion for two (2) years from the date passed, and shall not be  
9 required to retake that portion during the two-year period.

10           C. An applicant who is academically dishonest when taking any  
11 authorized examination is disqualified and may not take the  
12 examination again until two (2) years have elapsed from the date of  
13 the examination at which the applicant was disqualified.

14           D. A certification issued under this section must be for one or  
15 more of the following methods of shorthand reporting:

- 16           1. Written shorthand;
- 17           2. Machine shorthand; or
- 18           3. Any other method of shorthand reporting authorized by the  
19 Supreme Court.

20           E. No person may engage in shorthand reporting in this state  
21 unless the person is a licensed or certified shorthand reporter or  
22 otherwise authorized by law or the Supreme Court.

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1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1505, as  
2 amended by Section 3, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2005 (20 O.S. Supp. 2009,  
3 Section 1505), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 1505. A person holding a license from another state  
5 which is deemed by the State Board of Examiners of Certified  
6 Shorthand Reporters to be equivalent to that of an Oklahoma  
7 certified shorthand reporter, or holding current national  
8 certification as a shorthand reporter, or holding both an equivalent  
9 license from another state and national certification, may be  
10 enrolled without examination as an Oklahoma certified shorthand  
11 reporter upon satisfying the Board that the credentials of the  
12 applicant are in proper order ~~and that the person is a resident of~~  
13 ~~Oklahoma.~~

14 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

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