

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 582

By: Jolley of the Senate

and

Jones of the House

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7 An Act relating to schools; directing State Board of
8 Education to grant alternative placement teaching
9 certificate to any person who meets certain
10 requirements; directing State Board of Education to
11 adopt certain rules; directing Board to issue license
12 to teach to persons who meet certain requirements;
13 providing exemption from residency program; requiring
14 participation in certain mentoring program; directing
15 Board to issue certificate to teachers who meet
16 certain requirements; directing Board to identify an
17 organization that meets certain criteria; providing
18 for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.5 of Title 70, unless
22 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. The State Board of Education shall grant an Alternative
24 Placement teaching certificate to any person:

1. Who meets the eligibility requirements for the Troops to
Teachers program operated by the United States Department of Defense
and managed by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education
Support (DANTES); and

1 2. Who meets the requirements set forth in Section 6-122.3 of
2 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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

5 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
6 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-122.6 of Title 70, unless
7 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

8 A. The State Board of Education shall issue a one-year,
9 nonrenewable secondary or middle level license to teach to any
10 person who has attained certification by an alternative teacher
11 certification organization as set forth in subsection C of this
12 section and has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma criminal
13 history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation as
14 well as a national criminal history record check as defined in
15 Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon receipt of
16 the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue a
17 temporary license which shall be effective until receipt of the
18 national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
19 applying for a license shall be responsible for the cost of the
20 criminal history records.

21 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6-195 of Title 70
22 of the Oklahoma Statutes, teachers issued a license pursuant to this
23 section shall not be subject to the requirements of the residency
24 program, but shall participate in the mentoring program provided by

1 the alternative teacher certification organization as set forth in
2 subsection C of this section. Upon successful completion of such
3 mentoring program, the teacher shall be issued a certificate to
4 teach by the State Board of Education after completion of the
5 application and payment of the certification fee as prescribed by
6 the State Board of Education.

7 C. For purposes of this section, the State Board of Education
8 shall identify an alternative teacher certification organization
9 that was founded with grant funding from the United States
10 Department of Education and that developed the Passport to Teaching
11 program, which is a certification program designed for professionals
12 who want to change careers and become teachers. The program shall
13 require candidates to hold a bachelor's degree, pass a professional
14 teaching knowledge exam, pass a subject area exam, and pass a
15 background check. The organization shall provide candidates with
16 access to workshops, an experienced teacher-advisor, and optional
17 access to comprehensive subject matter refresher courses. The
18 organization shall also provide an intensive mentoring and induction
19 program.

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

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

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1 Passed the Senate the 25th day of February, 2009.

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4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2009.

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9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives