

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 01, 2010

ENGROSSED
Senate Bill No. 2038

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2038 - By: ANDERSON of the Senate and DUNCAN of the House.

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

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

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

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

- 7 1. Is of legal age;
- 8 2. Meets the requisite standards of ethical fitness; ~~and~~
- 9 3. Has at least a high school education or its equivalent; and

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

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

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

18 2. Part 2 is the Oklahoma Written Knowledge test which consists of not less than
19 twenty-five multiple choice questions relating to Oklahoma law and court rules, duties of
20 certified shorthand reporters, and general court procedure. The examination shall be
21 approved by the Supreme Court. A person who has tested with the Board and
22 successfully completed the written knowledge portion of the examination shall be allowed

1 to retain the credit for that portion for two (2) years from the date passed, and shall not
2 be required to retake that portion during the two-year period.

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

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

- 8 1. Written shorthand;
- 9 2. Machine shorthand; or
- 10 3. Any other method of shorthand reporting authorized by the Supreme Court.

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

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

17 Section 1505. A person holding a license from another state which is deemed by the
18 State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters to be equivalent to that of an
19 Oklahoma certified shorthand reporter, or holding current national certification as a
20 shorthand reporter, or holding both an equivalent license from another state and
21 national certification, may be enrolled without examination as an Oklahoma certified

1 shorthand reporter upon satisfying the Board that the credentials of the applicant are in
2 proper order ~~and that the person is a resident of Oklahoma.~~

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

4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
5 FINANCIAL SERVICES, dated 03-31-10 - DO PASS.