

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 2, 2009

ENGROSSED

Senate Bill No. 582

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 582 - By: JOLLEY of the Senate and JONES of the House.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma
2 Statutes as Section 6-122.5 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in
3 numbering, reads as follows:
- 4 A. The State Board of Education shall grant an Alternative Placement teaching
5 certificate to any person:
- 6 1. Who meets the eligibility requirements for the Troops to Teachers program
7 operated by the United States Department of Defense and managed by the Defense
8 Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES); and

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

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

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

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

18 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6-195 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma
19 Statutes, teachers issued a license pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the
20 requirements of the residency program, but shall participate in the mentoring program
21 provided by the alternative teacher certification organization as set forth in subsection C
22 of this section. Upon successful completion of such mentoring program, the teacher shall

1 be issued a certificate to teach by the State Board of Education after completion of the
2 application and payment of the certification fee as prescribed by the State Board of
3 Education.

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

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

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

17 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 04-01-09
18 - DO PASS.

