STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2790 By: Ortega

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-189, which relates to the licensure and certification system; modifying certification requirements for a superintendent of schools; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-189, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-189. A. The licensure and certification system required by the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act as part of the new teacher preparation system shall be competency-based. The competencies for licensure and certification shall be integrated with competencies specified in Section 6-185 of this title. By July 1, 1996, the State Board of Education shall adopt general competencies for licensure and certification, and by January 1, 1997, the Board shall have adopted full competencies and implemented

the licensure and certification systems as required in this act. No higher education courses or credit hours may be specified by the State Board of Education in rules for licensure or certification. Nothing in the licensure and certification rules adopted by the Board shall prohibit the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from adopting policies and procedures it deems appropriate for coursework, grade point average, or credit hours for teacher preparation at institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

B. The certification requirements for a school principal not alternatively certified under subsection D of this section shall include not less than:

1. Completion of a standard master's degree;

2. Completion of a program in education administration approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis on curriculum, instruction and building-level leadership skills;

3. Any other professional education and requirements as may be fixed by the State Board of Education;

4. A passing score on the subject area competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

5. A minimum of two (2) years of successful teaching experience in public or private schools accredited by the State Board of Education or by the proper accrediting authority of another state of the United States.

C. The certification requirements for a superintendent of schools not alternatively certified under subsection D of this section shall include not less than:

1. Certification as a school principal or completion of the certification requirements for a school principal as set forth in subsection B of this section;

2. ~~Completion~~

a. completion of a program in education administration approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis on district-level leadership skills, and which shall include the following competencies:

~~a.~~ (1) instructional leadership,

~~b.~~ (2) organizational leadership, including education finance, education law, and risk management,

~~c.~~ (3) collaborative and community leadership, and

~~d.~~ (4) ethical leadership~~;~~, or

b. the requirement in subparagraph a of this paragraph shall not apply to any person who has completed an Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation approved Master's Degree in Education Administration or has completed a program in education administration that included competencies that are substantially equal to those listed in subparagraph a of this paragraph, and

if the degree or program was completed between the effective date of this act and July 1, 2005;

3. Any other professional education and requirements as may be fixed by the State Board of Education;

4. A passing score on the subject area competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

5. A minimum of two (2) years of administrative experience in public or private schools accredited by the State Board of Education or by the proper accrediting authority of another state of the United States.

D. 1. The standards for alternative certification for superintendents of schools and principals shall include:

a. the completion of a standard master's degree,

b. two (2) years of relevant work experience in a supervisory or administrative capacity,

c. a passing score on the subject area competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this title, and

d. filing with the director of teacher education at an Oklahoma accredited institution of higher education a plan for completing an alternative administrative preparation program within three (3) years. Relevant work experience and coursework may be considered and applied to complete the plan.

2. An alternative certificate for superintendent of schools and principals shall not exceed three (3) years and shall not be renewable.

3. Upon successful completion of an alternative administrative preparation program by a participant, the State Board of Education shall issue a standard certificate for superintendent or principal, as applicable, to the applicant.

4. Any person participating in an alternative certification program for superintendent of schools and principals on the effective date of this act shall be subject to the program requirements in effect prior to the effective date of this act.

E. The certification requirements for a superintendent of a technology center school district shall include not less than a standard master's degree, any other professional education requirements as may be fixed by the State Board of Education, and a minimum of four (4) years teaching, supervisory or administrative experience, which may include teaching of full-time adult students, in a technology center school district. A person meeting the requirements set forth in subsection C of this section shall be eligible for a certificate for superintendent of a technology center school district.

F. Certificates may be revoked by the State Board of Education for willful violation of any rule of the Board or of any federal or

state law or other proper cause but only after sufficient hearing has been given before the Board.

G. Teaching in a Head Start program or programs shall be used for renewal of a standard teaching certificate.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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