

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

HOUSE BILL 2283

By: Pittman

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; stating legislative intent that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education establish a veterans teacher training pilot program; requiring participating institutions to provide certain training for teachers and teacher candidates; directing the State Regents to establish guidelines and procedures; requiring annual reports by participating institutions; requiring the State Regents to submit a report containing certain information; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7101 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education establish a veterans teacher training pilot program. The State Regents shall select one or more institutions within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education to participate in the pilot program.

B. The purpose of the pilot program shall be to facilitate the teacher certification and licensure of veterans and to address the shortage of certified public school teachers that is anticipated to occur due to teacher retirements by taking advantage of the qualified workforce represented by the State's veterans.

C. Under the pilot program, participating institutions shall enroll in a thirty-six (36) month accelerated teacher preparation program, a single cohort of students who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces and who served on or after September 11, 2001. The program shall lead to a bachelor's degree and completion of the requirements necessary to apply to the State Board of Education for teacher licensure and certification.

D. The State Regents shall establish guidelines and procedures for the pilot program.

E. Each participating institution shall report annually to the State Regents about the operation and results of the pilot program. Not later than December 31 of the third year in which the pilot program is operating, the State Regents shall submit a report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President Pro Tempore of the Senate containing an evaluation of the results of the pilot program.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

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