

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 2951

By: Rogers and Coody (Ann) of
the House

and

Bice of the Senate

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to schools; directing the State
12 Department of Education and the Oklahoma State
13 Regents for Higher Education to develop and implement
14 teacher recruitment programs; requiring distribution
15 of materials; giving certain programs priority;
16 encouraging business community and school districts
17 to cooperate in developing certain programs;
18 encouraging certain associations to cooperate in
19 developing certain programs; making actions
20 contingent upon funding; creating the Oklahoma
21 Teacher Recruitment Revolving Fund; specifying
22 sources of fund; providing for expenditures;
23 providing for codification; and providing an
24 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 6-131 of Title 70, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 Subject to the availability of funds, the State Department of
2 Education and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,
3 working in cooperation, shall:

4 1. Develop and implement programs to identify talented students
5 and recruit those students and other persons into the teaching
6 profession. Persons targeted for recruitment may include, but are
7 not limited to, high school and undergraduate students, mid-career
8 and retired professionals, honorably discharged and retired military
9 personnel and members of underrepresented gender and ethnic groups;

10 2. Develop and distribute materials that emphasize the
11 importance of the teaching profession and inform individuals about
12 state-funded loan forgiveness and tuition assistance programs;

13 3. Give priority to developing and implementing recruitment
14 programs to address the areas of teacher shortage identified in and
15 the recommendations made in the educator supply-and-demand study as
16 required by Section 6-211 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The
17 Department may use discretionary funds to carry out the provisions
18 of this paragraph;

19 4. Encourage cooperation between the business community and
20 school districts to develop recruitment programs designed to attract
21 and retain capable teachers, including programs to provide summer
22 employment opportunities for teachers; and

23 5. Encourage major education associations to cooperate in
24 developing a long-range program promoting teaching as a prestigious,

1 respected and desirable career and to assist in identifying local
2 activities and resources that may be used to promote the teaching
3 profession.

4 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-132 of Title 70, unless there
6 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

7 A. Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) of the fee authorized by Section
8 1135.5 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes for Oklahoma License to
9 Educate license plates shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Teacher
10 Recruitment Revolving Fund created in subsection B of this section.

11 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
12 fund for the State Department of Education to be designated the
13 "Oklahoma Teacher Recruitment Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a
14 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall
15 consist of all monies received by the State Department of Education
16 pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section and any
17 donations, grants and gifts from any public or private source. All
18 monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated
19 and may be budgeted and expended by the State Department of
20 Education for the purpose of operating teacher recruitment programs.
21 Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the
22 State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the
23 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for
24 approval and payment.

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SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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