ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 1038 By: Smalley of the Senate

and

Martin of the House

An Act relating to teaching certification; providing for the creation of the Teaching Certification Scholarship Program; providing purpose of program to provide certain scholarships subject to available funds; directing the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability to establish eligibility criteria; creating certain limitation; requiring recipients of scholarship to submit certain declaration; creating the Teaching Certification Scholarship Revolving Fund; specifying sources of fund; providing for expenditures; providing for promulgation of rules; 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 6-187B of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability shall establish the Teaching Certification Scholarship Program. The purpose of the program shall be to provide qualifying teacher candidates who are seeking certification with a scholarship toward the cost of competency examinations required by Section 6-187 of

Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, subject to the availability of funds.

B. The Commission shall establish eligibility criteria for the Teaching Certification Scholarship Program.

C. Scholarships granted pursuant to this section shall be limited to one per teacher candidate.

D. A teacher candidate who accepts a scholarship shall be required to submit to the Commission a declaration to teach for a minimum of one (1) year in an accredited school district in Oklahoma. If the teacher candidate does not teach at a school district in Oklahoma upon achieving certification, he or she shall be required to reimburse the Commission for the full amount awarded.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-187C of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability to be designated the "Teaching Certification Scholarship Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability from the Legislature and any donations, grants and gifts from any public or private source. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Office of

Educational Quality and Accountability for the purpose of implementing the Teaching Certification Scholarship Program. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-187D of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective January 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate the 1st day of March, 2016.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2016.

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Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives