

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 16, 2015

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 20

By: Sharp of the Senate

and

Henke of the House

6
7
8
9 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70
10 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as amended by Section 17,
11 Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section
12 6-190), which relates to qualifications for
13 certification; directing the State Board of Education
14 to issue a certificate to teach to persons with out-
of-state certificates who meet certain requirements;
exempting such persons from certain examinations;
requiring such persons to submit certain criminal
history records; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

15
16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as
19 amended by Section 17, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2014,
20 Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school
22 district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in
23 Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified to teach by
24 the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher

1 Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for by Section 6-101
2 of this title and by other law.

3 B. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
4 who:

5 1. Has successfully completed the teacher education program
6 required by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation;

7 2. Has graduated from an accredited institution of higher
8 education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;

9 3. Has met all other requirements as may be established by the
10 Board;

11 4. Has made the necessary application and paid the competency
12 examination fee in an amount and as prescribed by the Commission;

13 5. Has successfully completed the competency examination
14 required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

15 6. Beginning November 1, 2001, has on file with the Board a
16 current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State
17 Bureau of Investigation as well as a national criminal history
18 record check as defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
19 Statutes. Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the
20 Board may issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective
21 until receipt of the national fingerprint-based criminal history
22 record. The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible
23 for the cost of the criminal history records.
24

1 C. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
2 who:

3 1. Holds an out-of-state certificate and meets ~~standards set by~~
4 ~~the Board~~ the requirements set forth in subsection F of this
5 section; or

6 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional
7 Teaching Standards.

8 D. Beginning July 1, 2004, any person applying for initial
9 Oklahoma certification shall have on file with the Board a current
10 Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
11 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
12 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
13 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue
14 a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt of
15 the national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
16 applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the cost of the
17 criminal history records.

18 E. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to
19 January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the
20 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional
21 development requirements prescribed by the Oklahoma Teacher
22 Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

23 F. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person
24 who holds a valid out-of-state certificate. The certificate to

1 teach shall only be for those subject areas and grade levels most
2 closely aligned to the subject areas and grade levels recognized on
3 the out-of-state certificate.

4 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
5 subsection and who has five (5) years of successful teaching
6 experience as a certified teacher in an accredited school shall not
7 be required to take any competency examinations in those subject
8 areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the subject areas and
9 grade levels recognized on the out-of-state certificate.

10 3. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
11 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
12 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
13 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
14 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
15 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
16 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
17 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
18 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
19 cost of the criminal history record checks.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

21 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
22 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
23
24

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
4 February 16, 2015 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24