

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 20

By: Sharp of the Senate

3 and

4 Henke of the House
5

6 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70
7 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as amended by Section 17,
8 Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section
9 6-190), which relates to qualifications for
10 certification; directing the State Board of Education
11 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.

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

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

18 Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school
19 district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in
20 Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified to teach by
21 the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher
22 Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for by Section 6-101
23 of this title and by other law.
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1 B. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
2 who:

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

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

7 3. Has met all other requirements as may be established by the
8 Board;

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

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

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

22 C. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
23 who:
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1 1. Holds an out-of-state certificate and meets ~~standards set by~~
2 ~~the Board~~ the requirements set forth in subsection F of this
3 section; or

4 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional
5 Teaching Standards.

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

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

21 F. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person
22 who holds a valid out-of-state certificate. The certificate to
23 teach shall only be for those subject areas and grade levels most
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1 closely aligned to the subject areas and grade levels recognized on
2 the out-of-state certificate.

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

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

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

20 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
21 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
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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 Passed the Senate the 25th day of February, 2015.

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5 _____
6 Presiding Officer of the Senate

7 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
8 2015.

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11 Presiding Officer of the House
12 of Representatives
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