

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 15

 By: Bice, Loveless and Pittman
 of the Senate

6 and

7 Martinez of the House

8
9
10 An Act relating to teachers; directing the State
11 Department of Education and the Oklahoma State
12 Regents for Higher Education to develop and implement
13 teacher recruitment programs; requiring distribution
14 of materials; giving certain programs priority;
15 encouraging business community and school districts
16 to cooperate in developing certain programs;
17 encouraging certain associations to cooperate in
18 developing certain programs; making actions
19 contingent upon funding; creating the Oklahoma
20 Teacher Recruitment Revolving Fund; specifying
21 sources of fund; providing for expenditures;
22 providing for codification; providing an effective
23 date; and declaring an emergency.
24

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 anyone
7 eligible for lawful employment;

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

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

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

21 5. Encourage major education associations to cooperate in
22 developing a long-range program promoting teaching as a prestigious,
23 respected and desirable career and to assist in identifying local
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1 activities and resources that may be used to promote the teaching
2 profession.

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

6 A. Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) of the fee authorized by Section 1
7 of Enrolled Senate Bill No. 14 of the 1st Session of the 56th
8 Oklahoma Legislature, for Oklahoma License to Educate license plates
9 shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Teacher Recruitment Revolving
10 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.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

2 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
3 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
4 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
5 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
8 04/19/2017 - DO PASS.
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