

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 27, 2017

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 1576

By: Caldwell of the House

and

Stanislowski of the Senate

8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
9 Section 6-186, as amended by Section 12, Chapter 124,
10 O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-186),
which relates to criteria for approval and
11 accreditation of teacher education programs;
12 requiring Commission for Educational Quality and
Accountability to adopt rules relating to digital
13 technologies for program accreditation by certain
date; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as
14 amended by Section 18, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70
O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-192), which relates to
15 professional development procedures for teachers;
requiring procedures to include digital teaching and
16 learning standards; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-186, as
20 amended by Section 12, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,
21 Section 6-186), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 6-186. A. Criteria for the approval and accreditation
23 of teacher education programs in Oklahoma institutions of higher
24

1 education shall include, but not be limited to, substantial evidence
2 that persons who enter teacher education programs demonstrate:

3 1. Competency in the oral and written use of the English
4 language;

5 2. A minimum grade point average as established by the ~~Oklahoma~~
6 ~~Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for Educational
7 Quality and Accountability; and

8 3. The ability to meet criteria established pursuant to the
9 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act at the completion of the teacher
10 education program and provide evidence of having worked with
11 children or youth in a variety of situations.

12 Criteria shall also include a greater emphasis upon field work
13 in accredited schools by prospective teachers under the supervision
14 of higher education faculty.

15 B. The ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission
16 for Educational Quality and Accountability shall work with the
17 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the various
18 institutions of higher education in developing guidelines for a paid
19 teacher internship program which may be offered at each institution
20 for prospective teachers. The purpose of each program shall be to
21 provide mentorship and support for prospective teachers. Students
22 enrolled in a teacher education program shall be eligible to
23 participate in the program. Only students who have completed the
24 minimum nonsalaried teacher internship requirement as established by

1 the institution shall be eligible to participate in the paid teacher
2 internship program.

3 C. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Legislature
4 that the ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for
5 Educational Quality and Accountability work with the Oklahoma State
6 Regents for Higher Education and the various institutions of higher
7 education in establishing a procedure whereby full-time teacher
8 education faculty continue their professional development during
9 their tenure at an institution of higher education to ensure that
10 the future teachers of this state are taught by professional
11 educators fully trained in their area of expertise. Each approved
12 or accredited program of teacher education shall have a system for
13 documenting and reporting the annual professional development
14 activities of all teacher education faculty members. Faculty
15 professional development reports shall be reviewed by the Commission
16 along with professional development activities as a normal part of
17 the accreditation process.

18 It is further declared to be the intent of the Legislature that
19 such professional development plans provide alternative means of
20 education including, but not limited to:

- 21 1. Professional development programs;
- 22 2. Higher education courses;
- 23 3. Exchange programs with public school classroom teachers,
24 administrators, and other school personnel; and

1 4. Programs whereby all full-time teacher education faculty
2 members directly involved in the teacher education process,
3 including all administrators of the teacher education program, are
4 required to serve in a state accredited public school for at least
5 ten (10) clock hours per school year in responsibilities related to
6 their respective teacher education teaching fields.

7 All public school systems shall participate in the programs
8 provided for in this subsection when needed.

9 D. ~~The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission
10 for Educational Quality and Accountability shall adopt rules
11 requiring specific improvements to strengthen the screening of
12 student applicants and field activity and placement as set out in
13 subsection A of this section. Such rules shall be reviewed and
14 amended or readopted by the Commission at least once every five (5)
15 years.

16 E. To assist the Commission in setting specific requirements as
17 set out in subsections A and D of this section, the Commission shall
18 annually prepare a statistical report showing the percentage of
19 students from each of the Oklahoma institutions of higher education
20 who have successfully completed or who have failed the competency
21 examination for certification. The annual report shall show the
22 percentages for each institution of higher education and each
23 assessment area separately by student degree status and shall be
24 distributed annually to each member of the ~~Oklahoma Commission for~~

1 ~~Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for Educational Quality and
2 Accountability, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the
3 governing board of each institution which has an approved or state
4 accredited teacher education program, the State Board of Education,
5 the State Board of Career and Technology Education and the
6 Legislature.

7 F. By November 1, 2017, the Commission shall adopt rules
8 requiring coursework or training in the use of digital and other
9 instructional technologies as a requisite for program accreditation.

10 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as
11 amended by Section 18, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,
12 Section 6-192), is amended to read as follows:

13 Section 6-192. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of
14 the Legislature to establish a professional development procedure
15 whereby all teachers in the state continue their education beyond
16 initial certification by the state to ensure that the children of
17 the state are taught by professional educators, fully prepared in
18 their areas of expertise. Furthermore, such professional
19 development procedure shall provide alternative means of education,
20 including one or more of the following: In-service programs, higher
21 education courses, or other alternative means of education designed
22 to help teachers enrich their professional abilities.

1 B. The professional development procedure shall include digital
2 teaching and learning standards to enhance content delivery to
3 students and improve student achievement.

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

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

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
10 March 27, 2017 - DO PASS
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