

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2655
Version:	CS
Request Number:	8234
Author:	Rep. Pittman
Date:	3/11/2019
Impact:	Anticipated, but currently unknown

**Consultation with OSDE
and OSRHE is ongoing**

Research Analysis

The committee substitute to HB2655 directs the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the State Board of Education and the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability to create an advisory consortium that works toward recruiting, retaining and placing teachers of color in public schools. Under the measure, teacher education programs are required to prepare plans for the recruitment and retention of teachers of color, and to create mentoring and induction programs for teachers of color.

HB2655 also establishes a loan-forgiveness program for teachers of color who complete five years of service in schools that serve a substantial percentage of low-income students with partial forgiveness for shorter periods of service.

Lastly, the measure requires the advisory consortium to award grants to programs that train teachers to work in “hard-to-staff schools” and meet other requirements.

Prepared By: Emily Wendler

Fiscal Analysis

The proposed committee substitute in its current form will establish a loan forgiveness program. Teachers of color will have the totality of their loans forgiven after five years of employment in schools that serve a substantial percentage of low-income students with partial forgiveness for teachers with shorter periods of service. It is anticipated that a fiscal impact will exist, though an amount is currently unknown. Consultation with the State Department of Education and the State Regents for Higher Education is ongoing at this time.

Prepared By: Cole Stout

Other Considerations

None.

