

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

4 HOUSE BILL 1152

By: Osburn of the House

5 and

6 **Garvin** of the Senate

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8
9 AS INTRODUCED

10 An Act relating to court reporters; amending 20 O.S.
11 2011, Section 1503, which relates to examination for
12 enrollment of certified shorthand reporters; removing
 certain preliminary proficiency requirements; and
 providing an effective date.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 1503, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1503. A. Every applicant who seeks to be examined for
19 enrollment as a certified shorthand reporter shall prove to the
20 satisfaction of the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand
21 Reporters that he or she:

22 1. Is of legal age;

23 2. Meets the requisite standards of ethical fitness; and

24 3. Has at least a high school education or its equivalent; ~~and~~

1 ~~4. Possesses a minimum level of court reporting proficiency~~
2 ~~which would allow the applicant to meet the examination requirements~~
3 ~~established in paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section. An~~
4 ~~applicant may satisfy such requirements by obtaining verification~~
5 ~~through a court reporting school official of the applicant's level~~
6 ~~of proficiency, as outlined by the test application; by passing a~~
7 ~~preliminary proficiency examination, which has been approved by the~~
8 ~~Board; or by proving that the applicant has previously held any~~
9 ~~state or national shorthand reporting certificate or license.~~

10 B. The examination for certification in one or more authorized
11 methods of shorthand reporting consists of two parts, designated
12 Part 1 and Part 2 as follows:

13 1. Part 1 consists of the test as authorized by the Supreme
14 Court consisting of the following requirements: demonstrated
15 proficiency in reporting testimony and proceedings at a speed of not
16 more than two hundred (200) words per minute in taking a question-
17 and-answer type dictation and at a speed of not more than one
18 hundred eighty (180) words per minute in taking literary materials
19 which shall be designed to test the ability of an applicant to
20 accurately prepare a transcript of testimony and proceedings that is
21 reasonably free from spelling errors. The Board may not increase or
22 decrease such minimum speed requirement, by rule or otherwise; and
23 2. Part 2 is the Oklahoma Written Knowledge test which consists
24 of not less than twenty-five multiple choice questions relating to

Oklahoma law and court rules, duties of certified shorthand reporters, and general court procedure. The examination shall be approved by the Supreme Court. A person who has tested with the Board and successfully completed the written knowledge portion of the examination shall be allowed to retain the credit for that portion for two (2) years from the date passed, and shall not be required to retake that portion during the two-year period.

C. An applicant who is academically dishonest when taking any authorized examination is disqualified and may not take the examination again until two (2) years have elapsed from the date of the examination at which the applicant was disqualified.

D. A certification issued under this section must be for one or more of the following methods of shorthand reporting:

1. Written shorthand;
2. Machine shorthand; or
3. Any other method of shorthand reporting authorized by the Supreme Court.

E. No person may engage in shorthand reporting in this state unless the person is a licensed or certified shorthand reporter or otherwise authorized by law or the Supreme Court.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY - CIVIL, dated 02/16/2021 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.