

<DateSubmitted>

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President:
Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

HB3564

By: McBride of the House and Pemberton of the Senate

Title: Teachers; creating the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program; effective date; emergency.

Together with Engrossed Senate Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

1. That the Senate recede from Amendment No. 1; and
2. That the House concurs with Senate amendments No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4; and
3. By adopting the following conference committee amendment to restore the title to read as follows:

An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 698.1, which relates to teacher preparation scholarships; describing program purpose; creating the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program; providing program eligibility criteria; including payment of specified costs and fees; listing scholarship amounts for participants; specifying maximum scholarship amount per participant; modifying membership and duties of certain committee; setting minimum years of teaching for program; listing standards for program participants; providing for incentive payments after graduation and upon certain employment; providing annual amount of incentive and including incentive cap; requiring execution of certain agreements; declaring certain participants ineligible for program; authorizing Chancellor to contract with certain entities; permitting reduction in payments if funds are insufficient; allowing funds to be set aside at certain time; authorizing use of funds for program administration; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

House Action _____ Date _____ Senate Action _____ Date _____

SENATE CONFEREES

Pemberton _____

Pugh _____

Dahm _____

Merrick _____

Stanley _____

Taylor _____

Hicks _____

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENTS
TO
2 ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 3564

By: McBride, Fugate, Baker,
Phillips, and Nollan of the
House

and

Pemberton of the Senate

[teachers - teacher preparation scholarships -
Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment
Incentive Program - effective date -
emergency]

14 AUTHOR: Add the following House Coauthors: Conley and Waldron

15 AUTHOR: Add the following Senate Coauthor: Stephens

16 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the enacting clause

17 AMENDMENT NO. 2. Page 1, line 23, insert after the words "state
18 public" the words "higher education institutions"

19 AMENDMENT NO. 3. Page 1, lines 23 and 24, restore the stricken
words "~~or private~~"

20 AMENDMENT NO. 4. Page 1, line 24, insert after the word
21 "institutions" and before the word "and" the
22 following: "accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of
23 this title"

and when the title is restored, amend the title to
conform

24

1 Passed the Senate the 28th day of April, 2022.

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3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2022.

7
8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 3564

By: McBride, Fugate, Baker,
Phillips, and Nollan of the
House

3
4 and

Pemberton of the Senate

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6
7
8 [teachers - teacher preparation scholarships -

9 Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment

10 Incentive Program - effective date -

11 emergency]
12
13

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 698.1, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 698.1 A. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
18 Education ~~are authorized to~~ shall establish and maintain an
19 incentive scholarship program and teacher employment incentive
20 program, as funding is available, to encourage the preparation of
21 public school teachers for prekindergarten through twelfth grade,
22 including minority teachers, ~~in critical shortage areas for the~~
23 ~~public schools at one or more of the Oklahoma~~ all state public ~~or~~
24 ~~private~~ higher education institutions and incentivize employment as

1 public teachers for prekindergarten through twelfth grade in the
2 state for at least five (5) years, to be known as the Oklahoma
3 Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program.

4 Prospective teachers, ~~whether~~ planning to pursue an undergraduate
5 teacher education program ~~or to become qualified to teach after~~
6 ~~earning a bachelor's degree in a critical shortage area, at an~~
7 accredited Oklahoma teacher preparation program shall be considered
8 if they ~~have~~ graduated from an Oklahoma high school ~~with a grade~~
9 ~~point average ranking them in the top fifteen percent (15%) of their~~
10 ~~graduating class,~~ meet the higher education admission standards, and
11 declare a major in an approved Oklahoma teacher preparation degree
12 program leading to a standard teaching certificate. To the extent
13 that funds are available, scholarships ~~of One Thousand Five Hundred~~
14 ~~Dollars (\$1,500.00) per year,~~ renewable for up to three (3)
15 additional years for qualified students meeting satisfactory
16 academic progress standards in completing a teacher preparation
17 degree program leading to a standard teaching certificate, shall be
18 awarded to cover costs of tuition, general enrollment fees, other
19 fees, books, materials, and services provided by the institution,
20 including room and board, in the following manner:

21 1. One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per academic year for up to
22 three (3) academic years for full-time students who have earned less
23 than ninety (90) credit hours; and

1 2. Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) for the final
2 academic year for full-time students who have earned ninety (90) or
3 more credit hours. The maximum amount of scholarship funds awarded
4 as provided in this subsection to any qualified student shall not
5 exceed Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$5,500.00).

6 B. It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that the
7 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education create a committee
8 composed of educators, teacher educators from the participating
9 institutions, ~~other professionals from the shortage area fields,~~ and
10 representatives of the public schools and the State Department of
11 Education to ~~recommend~~ provide recommendations to the State Regents
12 ~~the following:~~

- 13 ~~1. Further criteria for the selection of participants;~~
14 ~~2. Procedures for admission;~~
15 ~~3. Procedures and instruments for assessing the effectiveness~~
16 ~~of the program; and~~
17 ~~4. Any other criteria or procedures deemed necessary by the~~
18 ~~State Regents~~ to improve effectiveness of the program.

19 The committee shall prepare and deliver a report on the program
20 to the Legislature on or before July 1 of each year.

21 C. Each scholarship participant, prior to entry into the
22 program, shall have agreed to teach in ~~the shortage areas in the an~~
23 Oklahoma public schools prekindergarten through twelfth grade school
24 ~~of this state~~ for a minimum of ~~three (3)~~ five (5) consecutive years

1 upon graduation and licensure as a teacher. Any scholarship
2 participant failing to maintain a 2.5 grade point average, changing
3 to an ~~inappropriate~~ ineligible area of study, failing to meet
4 satisfactory academic progress standards, withdrawing or otherwise
5 leaving school, or failing to meet requirements for licensure and
6 certification to teach as established by law shall be subject to
7 disqualification from the program.

8 D. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are
9 authorized to make employment incentive payments pursuant to the
10 provisions of this section to program participants who are employed
11 as traditionally certified teachers in Oklahoma public
12 prekindergarten through twelfth grade schools following graduation.
13 Incentive payments may be awarded following each consecutive year of
14 satisfactory service as documented by the employing school district,
15 up to five (5) years of service for scholarship recipients as
16 provided in subsection A of this section, upon graduation from an
17 accredited Oklahoma teacher preparation degree program. The maximum
18 amount of employment incentive payments for any qualified
19 participant shall be Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) per year for
20 up to five (5) years, not to exceed a total of Twenty Thousand
21 Dollars (\$20,000.00) per participant.

22 E. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall
23 require the execution of appropriate contracts with eligible program
24 participants. Participants failing to comply with the requirements

1 of this section or failing to provide current contact information
2 shall not be eligible for the employment incentive payments provided
3 for in this section. The Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents
4 for Higher Education, with the approval of the State Regents, may
5 contract with any other appropriate organization or unit of
6 government for the administration of the provisions of this section.

7 F. If sufficient funds are not available for employment
8 incentive payments to qualified participants during any fiscal year,
9 the Chancellor may make reductions in the payments made to qualified
10 participants.

11 G. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may, at the
12 time an award is made on behalf of the Oklahoma Future Teacher
13 Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program, set aside funds for
14 the full commitment made to an eligible student.

15 H. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may utilize
16 Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program
17 designated funds for administration of the program.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

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

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 8th day of March, 2022.

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3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

5 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate