

05/19/2023 02:33:13 PM

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President:
Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

HB2679

By: Baker of the House and Rader of the Senate

Title: Schools; making an appropriation to the State Board of Education; directing establishment of pilot program to employ literacy instructional team; effective date; emergency.






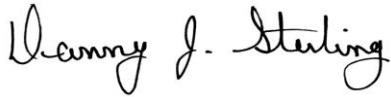


Together with Engrossed Senate Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

1. That the Senate recede from its amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

House Action _____ Date _____ Senate Action _____ Date _____

HB2679 CCR (A)
HOUSE CONFEREES

Baker, Rhonda		Caldwell, Chad	
Johns, Ronny		Lowe, Dick	
McBride, Mark		Provenzano, Melissa	
Rosecrants, Jacob	<hr/>	Sterling, Danny	
Tedford, Mark	<hr/>	Vancuren, Mark	
West, Tammy			

HB2679 CCR A

SENATE CONFEREES

Rader

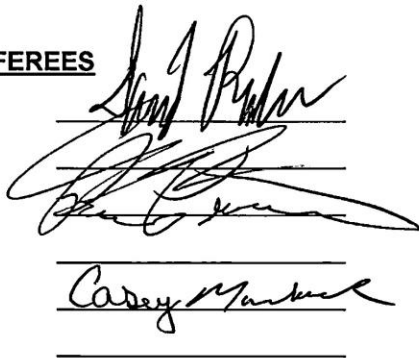
Pugh

Pemberton

Paxton

Murdock

Dossett

The block contains handwritten signatures for the Senate conferees. The first signature is for Rader, followed by Pugh, Pemberton, Paxton, and Murdock. The signature for Dossett is not present. Each signature is written over a horizontal line.

House Action _____ Date _____ Senate Action _____ Date _____

House Action _____ Date _____ Senate Action _____ Date _____

AUTHOR(s)/COAUTHOR(s)CURRENTLY IN THE QUEUE for HB2679

As of 5/19/2023 2:28:37 PM

Add as coauthor Senator Stewart

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENT
TO

2 ENGROSSED HOUSE
3 BILL NO. 2679

By: Baker and West (Tammy) of
the House

4 and

5 Rader of the Senate

6
7 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70
8 O.S. 2021, Section 6-133, which relates to the
9 teacher certification pathways pilot program;
10 modifying provider program requirements; updating
11 statutory citation; requiring provider to submit
12 certain annual report; modifying end date for pilot
13 program; providing an effective date; and declaring
14 an emergency.

13 AUTHOR: Add the following Senate Coauthors: Thompson (Kristen),
14 Bergstrom, Coleman, Stanley, Newhouse, Garvin, Pederson,
and Daniels

15 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the title, enacting clause and
16 entire bill and insert

17 "An Act relating to schools; making an appropriation
18 to the State Board of Education; providing purpose;
19 directing the State Department of Education to
20 establish certain pilot program to employ a literacy
21 instructional team; providing for technical
22 assistance and program implementation guidance to
23 team members and schools; directing team members to
24 be placed regionally statewide; providing duties for
team; providing training requirements for team
members; providing for Department oversight of team;
establishing minimum criteria for team employees;
providing hiring preferences for team members with
certain knowledge and training; requiring submission
of report by certain date; prescribing contents of

1 report; providing for codification; providing an
2 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

5 SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the State Board of
6 Education from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the
7 General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal year
8 beginning July 1, 2023, the sum of Ten Million Dollars
9 (\$10,000,000.00). These monies shall be used to implement the
10 provisions of Section 2 of this act.

11 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.508H of Title 70, unless
13 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 A. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the State
15 Department of Education shall establish a three-year pilot program
16 to employ a literacy instructional team to support school districts
17 in implementation of the requirements of Section 1210.508C of Title
18 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Department shall provide technical
19 assistance for literacy instruction, dyslexia, and related
20 disorders, and serve as a primary source of information and support
21 for schools in addressing the needs of students struggling with
22 literacy, dyslexia, and related disorders.

23 B. The Department shall employ a literacy instructional team
24 with team members who are placed regionally across the state. The

1 literacy instructional teams shall assist general education and
2 special education teachers in recognizing educational needs to
3 improve literacy outcomes for all students including those with
4 dyslexia or identified with the risk characteristics associated with
5 dyslexia. The role of the literacy instructional team shall also
6 include increasing professional awareness and instructional
7 competencies to meet the educational needs of all students including
8 those with dyslexia or identified with risk characteristics
9 associated with dyslexia. The Department shall prioritize supports
10 and interventions including enrollment in reading trainings and
11 professional development for schools which have the highest
12 percentage of students who do not demonstrate sufficient reading
13 skills as established by the State Board of Education.

14 C. Literacy instructional team members employed by the
15 Department shall have training in:

- 16 1. The science of how students learn to read including
17 phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension,
18 writing, and language;
- 19 2. Foundation of multisensory, explicit, systematic, and
20 structured reading instruction;
- 21 3. Identification of and the appropriate interventions,
22 accommodations, and teaching techniques for struggling students;
- 23 4. The requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act;
- 24 5. Special education laws and procedures; and

1 6. Appropriate interventions, accommodations, and assistive
2 technology supports for students with dyslexia or a related
3 disorder.

4 D. The literacy instructional team members employed by the
5 Department shall report to the Director of Reading Sufficiency and
6 have:

7 1. A minimum of five regional literacy leads, at least one who
8 shall be designated by the Department as a dyslexia specialist to
9 provide school districts with support and resources that are
10 necessary to assist students with dyslexia. The Department shall
11 give preference to educators applying for regional literacy lead
12 who:

- 13 a. have an endorsement or certification as a certified
14 structured literacy dyslexia specialist or certified
15 academic language therapist,
- 16 b. are knowledgeable of multitiered systems of support,
17 and
- 18 c. have been trained in the identification of and
19 intervention for dyslexia and related disorders
20 including best practice interventions and treatment
21 models for dyslexia; and

22 2. A minimum of ten literacy specialists. The Department shall
23 give preference to educators applying for literacy specialist who:

- 24 a. have training in the science of reading,

- 1 b. are knowledgeable of multitiered systems of support,
2 and
3 c. have been trained in the identification of and
4 intervention for dyslexia and related disorders
5 including best practice interventions and treatment
6 models for dyslexia.

7 E. The State Department of Education shall submit a report to
8 the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the
9 Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2026, that
10 includes an evaluation of the pilot program by school districts,
11 data on whether the program had an impact on increasing the number
12 of students who demonstrate proficiency in reading, and
13 recommendations for changes to the Reading Sufficiency Act.

14 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

15 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
16 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval."
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24

1 Passed the Senate the 27th day of April, 2023.

2
3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2023.

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

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2679

By: Baker and West (Tammy) of
the House

3 and

4 Rader of the Senate
5
6

7 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70
8 O.S. 2021, Section 6-133, which relates to the
9 teacher certification pathways pilot program;
10 modifying provider program requirements; updating
11 statutory citation; requiring provider to submit
12 certain annual report; modifying end date for pilot
13 program; providing an effective date; and declaring
14 an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-133, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 6-133. A. As used in this section:

19 1. "Provider" means an eligible entity that seeks or has
20 obtained approval of an alternative teacher preparation program
21 consistent with this section; and

22 2. "Program" means content provided by a provider that leads
23 toward licensure in a specific content area.

24 B. The State Board of Education shall identify providers to
implement new and innovative pathways toward teacher certification

1 on a pilot program basis. Providers seeking to participate in the
2 pilot program shall submit applications to the State Board of
3 Education.

4 C. A provider chosen by the State Board of Education to
5 participate in the pilot program shall offer a program that:

6 1. Provides evidence and history of fiscal solvency, capacity,
7 operation, and program effectiveness;

8 2. Provides evidence of necessary infrastructure to provide
9 accurate, timely, and secure data for the purpose of admission,
10 teacher candidate monitoring, testing, and certification
11 recommendations;

12 3. Has policies and procedures in place ensuring the security
13 of teacher candidate records under applicable laws and regulations;

14 4. Has the instructional capacity ~~or~~ within an existing novice
15 teacher support program, the ability to obtain the instructional
16 capacity, or has established a partnership with an accredited higher
17 education institution to provide adequate instruction in accordance
18 with this subsection;

19 5. Offers an instructional phase that provides intensive
20 preparation before the teacher candidates assume classroom
21 responsibilities;

22 6. Offers a research-based and results-oriented approach
23 focused on best teaching practices to increase student achievement
24 and growth measured against state academic standards;

1 7. Provides assessment, supervision, and evaluation of teacher
2 candidates to determine their specific needs throughout the program
3 and to support efforts to successfully complete the program;

4 8. Provides intensive and ongoing professional development
5 opportunities that accelerate a teacher candidate's professional
6 growth, support student learning, and provide a workplace
7 orientation, professional staff development, and mentoring;

8 9. Offers peer review focused on standards of professional
9 practice and continuous professional growth; and

10 10. Provides a process to review a teacher candidate's final
11 competency of required certification content standards that leads to
12 a potential candidate being recommended for teacher certification in
13 accordance with subsection F of this section.

14 D. The State Board of Education shall ensure that providers
15 approved to participate in the pilot program allow teacher
16 candidates to demonstrate pedagogy and content standard proficiency
17 in school-based programs and through other nontraditional means.
18 Nontraditional means may include, but not be limited to, previous
19 work experience, teacher experience, educator evaluations, industry-
20 recognized certifications, and other essentially equivalent
21 demonstrations.

22 E. If the State Board of Education determines that a provider
23 fails to meet or is deficient in any of the requirements of this
24 section, it may suspend or revoke the approval of the provider after

1 providing notification of the deficiencies and an opportunity to
2 remedy the deficiencies.

3 F. A teacher candidate that completes a program offered by an
4 approved provider shall be eligible for certification, provided he
5 or she meets the certification requirements set forth in Section 6-
6 187 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title in the area of
7 specialization for which certification is sought and is recommended
8 for certification by the approved provider.

9 G. The State Board of Education shall issue a certificate to
10 teach to any person who meets the requirements set forth in this
11 section and who has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
12 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
13 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
14 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The
15 person applying for the certificate shall be responsible for the
16 cost of the criminal history ~~records~~ record checks.

17 H. A provider shall submit a report to the State Department of
18 Education after one (1) year of operation showing the percentage of
19 teacher candidates who have completed the program and who have
20 successfully completed or who have failed the competency
21 examinations for certification and the provider's efforts to help
22 candidates successfully pass the examinations. A provider shall
23 annually submit ~~evidence~~ a report to the State Department of
24

1 Education ~~after the pilot year with evidence of~~ outlining the
2 success of the program.

3 I. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to
4 implement the provisions of this section.

5 J. The pilot program created in this section shall end no later
6 than July 1, ~~2024~~ 2026.

7 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

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

12 Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2023.

13
14 _____
15 Presiding Officer of the House
16 of Representatives

17 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2023.

18
19 _____
20 Presiding Officer of the Senate
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