

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 10, 2026

3 SENATE BILL NO. 1317

By: Dossett

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5  
6 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
7 Section 6-101.3, which relates to definitions for  
8 teachers; modifying certain definition; updating  
9 statutory language; providing an effective date; and  
10 declaring an emergency.

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

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-101.3, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 6-101.3. As used in Section 6-101 et seq. of this  
15 title:

16 1. "Administrator" means a duly certified person who devotes a  
17 majority of time to service as a superintendent, elementary  
18 superintendent, principal, supervisor, vice principal, or in any  
19 other administrative or supervisory capacity in the school district;

20 2. "Dismissal" means the discontinuance of the teaching service  
21 of an administrator or teacher during the term of a written  
22 contract, as provided by law;

23 3. "Nonreemployment" means the nonrenewal of the contract of an  
24 administrator or teacher upon expiration of the contract;

1 4. "Career teacher" means a teacher who:

2 a. is employed by a school district prior to the 2017-  
3 2018 school year and has completed three (3) or more  
4 consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one  
5 school district under a written continuing or  
6 temporary teaching contract, ~~or~~

7 b. is employed for the first time by a school district  
8 under a written continuing or temporary teaching  
9 contract during the 2017-2018 school year and  
10 thereafter and:

11 (1) has completed three (3) consecutive complete  
12 school years as a teacher in one school district  
13 under a written continuing or temporary teaching  
14 contract and has achieved a district evaluation  
15 rating of "superior" as measured pursuant to the  
16 ~~TLE~~ Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness  
17 Evaluation System (TLE) as set forth in Section  
18 6-101.16 of this title for at least two (2) of  
19 the three (3) school years,

20 (2) has completed four (4) consecutive complete  
21 school years as a teacher in one school district  
22 under a written continuing or temporary teaching  
23 contract, has averaged a district evaluation  
24 rating of at least "effective" as measured

1                   pursuant to the TLE for the four-year period, and  
2                   has received district evaluation ratings of at  
3                   least "effective" for the last two (2) years of  
4                   the four-year period, or

5                   (3) has completed four (4) or more consecutive  
6                   complete school years in one school district  
7                   under a written continuing or temporary teaching  
8                   contract and has not met the requirements of  
9                   subparagraph a or b of this paragraph, only if  
10                  the principal of the school at which the teacher  
11                  is employed submits a petition to the  
12                  superintendent of the school district requesting  
13                  that the teacher be granted career status, the  
14                  superintendent agrees with the petition, and the  
15                  school district board of education approves the  
16                  petition. The principal shall specify in the  
17                  petition the underlying facts supporting the  
18                  granting of career status to the teacher, or

19                  c. after meeting the requirements of subparagraph a or b  
20                  of this paragraph in one school district, is employed  
21                  by another school district under a written continuing  
22                  or temporary teaching contract and the school district  
23                  board of education has approved the granting of career  
24                  status to the teacher;

1           5. "Teacher hearing" means the hearing before a school district  
2 board of education after a recommendation for dismissal or  
3 nonreemployment of a teacher has been made but before any final  
4 action is taken on the recommendation, held for the purpose of  
5 affording the teacher all rights guaranteed by the United States  
6 Constitution and the Oklahoma Constitution ~~of Oklahoma~~ under  
7 circumstances and for enabling the board to determine whether to  
8 approve or disapprove the recommendation;

9           6. "Probationary teacher" means a teacher who:

10           a. is employed by a school district prior to the 2017-  
11           2018 school year and has completed fewer than three  
12           (3) consecutive complete school years as a teacher in  
13           one school district under a written teaching contract,  
14           or

15           b. is employed for the first time by a school district  
16           under a written teaching contract during the 2017-2018  
17           school year and thereafter and has not met the  
18           requirements for career teacher as provided in  
19           paragraph 4 of this section;

20           7. "Suspension" or "suspended" means the temporary  
21 discontinuance of the services of an administrator or teacher, as  
22 provided by law;

23           8. "Teacher" ~~means a person defined as a teacher~~ shall have the  
24 same meaning as provided for in Section 1-116 of this title; and

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9. "District evaluation rating" means the rating issued based on the components of the TLE as set forth in subsection B of Section 6-101.16 of this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
February 10, 2026 - DO PASS