

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 703

By: Paxton

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 6-154.1, which relates to renewal of standard
9 teaching certificates; updating statutory language;
10 allowing a micro-credential to fulfill certain
11 renewal requirements; directing the State Department
12 of Education, in certain collaboration, to identify
13 certain micro-credentials; providing for
14 authorization of certain micro-credential providers;
15 providing an effective date; and declaring an
16 emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-154.1, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 6-154.1. A. The State Board of Education shall
21 promulgate rules by which a person who holds a valid Oklahoma
22 ~~Standard Teaching Certificate~~ standard teaching certificate may
23 satisfy requirements for renewal of the ~~Standard Teaching~~
24 ~~Certificate~~ standard teaching certificate by completing staff
development programs, a micro-credential, conferences, and seminars
in lieu of teaching experience or higher education credits required
by the State Board of Education for certificate renewal. Only

1 programs, micro-credentials, conferences, and seminars recognized
2 for staff development credit by ~~an Oklahoma~~ a public school district
3 in this state at the time the teacher attends the program,
4 conference, or seminar or completes the micro-credential may be used
5 to fulfill requirements under this section. The State Board of
6 Education shall not require more staff development credit to be
7 earned for certificate renewal than the Board requires teachers and
8 administrators to earn ~~pursuant to Section 6-158 of Title 70 of the~~
9 ~~Oklahoma Statutes.~~

10 B. The State Department of Education, in collaboration with the
11 Office of Educational Quality and Accountability, shall identify
12 micro-credentials that may be used to fulfill the renewal
13 requirements provided for in subsection A of this section. Micro-
14 credentials identified pursuant to this subsection may be provided
15 by institutions of higher education within The Oklahoma State System
16 of Higher Education and providers and digital learning platforms
17 approved by the Department.

18 C. District School district boards of education may charge a
19 reasonable fee for a holder of a valid Oklahoma ~~Standard Teaching~~
20 ~~Certificate~~ standard teaching certificate who is not employed as a
21 teacher or administrator in ~~an Oklahoma~~ a public school in this
22 state to attend district-sponsored staff development programs or
23 seminars.

24 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

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