

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 27, 2017

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1576

By: Caldwell of the House

and

Stanislawski of the Senate

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8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,  
9 Section 6-186, as amended by Section 12, Chapter 124,  
10 O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-186),  
11 which relates to criteria for approval and  
12 accreditation of teacher education programs;  
13 requiring Commission for Educational Quality and  
14 Accountability to adopt rules relating to digital  
15 technologies for program accreditation by certain  
16 date; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as  
17 amended by Section 18, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70  
18 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-192), which relates to  
19 professional development procedures for teachers;  
20 requiring procedures to include digital teaching and  
21 learning standards; providing an effective date; and  
22 declaring an emergency.

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

24 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-186, as  
amended by Section 12, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,  
Section 6-186), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-186. A. Criteria for the approval and accreditation  
of teacher education programs in Oklahoma institutions of higher

1 education shall include, but not be limited to, substantial evidence  
2 that persons who enter teacher education programs demonstrate:

3 1. Competency in the oral and written use of the English  
4 language;

5 2. A minimum grade point average as established by the ~~Oklahoma~~  
6 ~~Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for Educational  
7 Quality and Accountability; and

8 3. The ability to meet criteria established pursuant to the  
9 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act at the completion of the teacher  
10 education program and provide evidence of having worked with  
11 children or youth in a variety of situations.

12 Criteria shall also include a greater emphasis upon field work  
13 in accredited schools by prospective teachers under the supervision  
14 of higher education faculty.

15 B. The ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission  
16 for Educational Quality and Accountability shall work with the  
17 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the various  
18 institutions of higher education in developing guidelines for a paid  
19 teacher internship program which may be offered at each institution  
20 for prospective teachers. The purpose of each program shall be to  
21 provide mentorship and support for prospective teachers. Students  
22 enrolled in a teacher education program shall be eligible to  
23 participate in the program. Only students who have completed the  
24 minimum nonsalaried teacher internship requirement as established by

1 the institution shall be eligible to participate in the paid teacher  
2 internship program.

3 C. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Legislature  
4 that the ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for  
5 Educational Quality and Accountability work with the Oklahoma State  
6 Regents for Higher Education and the various institutions of higher  
7 education in establishing a procedure whereby full-time teacher  
8 education faculty continue their professional development during  
9 their tenure at an institution of higher education to ensure that  
10 the future teachers of this state are taught by professional  
11 educators fully trained in their area of expertise. Each approved  
12 or accredited program of teacher education shall have a system for  
13 documenting and reporting the annual professional development  
14 activities of all teacher education faculty members. Faculty  
15 professional development reports shall be reviewed by the Commission  
16 along with professional development activities as a normal part of  
17 the accreditation process.

18 It is further declared to be the intent of the Legislature that  
19 such professional development plans provide alternative means of  
20 education including, but not limited to:

- 21 1. Professional development programs;
- 22 2. Higher education courses;
- 23 3. Exchange programs with public school classroom teachers,  
24 administrators, and other school personnel; and

1           4. Programs whereby all full-time teacher education faculty  
2 members directly involved in the teacher education process,  
3 including all administrators of the teacher education program, are  
4 required to serve in a state accredited public school for at least  
5 ten (10) clock hours per school year in responsibilities related to  
6 their respective teacher education teaching fields.

7           All public school systems shall participate in the programs  
8 provided for in this subsection when needed.

9           D. ~~The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission  
10 for Educational Quality and Accountability shall adopt rules  
11 requiring specific improvements to strengthen the screening of  
12 student applicants and field activity and placement as set out in  
13 subsection A of this section. Such rules shall be reviewed and  
14 amended or readopted by the Commission at least once every five (5)  
15 years.

16           E. To assist the Commission in setting specific requirements as  
17 set out in subsections A and D of this section, the Commission shall  
18 annually prepare a statistical report showing the percentage of  
19 students from each of the Oklahoma institutions of higher education  
20 who have successfully completed or who have failed the competency  
21 examination for certification. The annual report shall show the  
22 percentages for each institution of higher education and each  
23 assessment area separately by student degree status and shall be  
24 distributed annually to each member of the ~~Oklahoma Commission for~~

1 ~~Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for Educational Quality and  
2 Accountability, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the  
3 governing board of each institution which has an approved or state  
4 accredited teacher education program, the State Board of Education,  
5 the State Board of Career and Technology Education and the  
6 Legislature.

7 F. By November 1, 2017, the Commission shall adopt rules  
8 requiring coursework or training in the use of digital and other  
9 instructional technologies as a requisite for program accreditation.

10 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as  
11 amended by Section 18, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,  
12 Section 6-192), is amended to read as follows:

13 Section 6-192. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
14 the Legislature to establish a professional development procedure  
15 whereby all teachers in the state continue their education beyond  
16 initial certification by the state to ensure that the children of  
17 the state are taught by professional educators, fully prepared in  
18 their areas of expertise. Furthermore, such professional  
19 development procedure shall provide alternative means of education,  
20 including one or more of the following: In-service programs, higher  
21 education courses, or other alternative means of education designed  
22 to help teachers enrich their professional abilities.

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1        B. The professional development procedure shall include digital  
2 teaching and learning standards to enhance content delivery to  
3 students and improve student achievement.

4        SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

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

9        COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
10        March 27, 2017 - DO PASS