

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2655

By: Pittman of the House

3 and

4 Stanislawski of the Senate

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6
7 [teachers - creating an advisory consortium -
8 prescribing duties of consortium - effective date -
9 emergency]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-129.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-129.1 A. There is hereby ~~re-created until July 1, 2010, in accordance with the Oklahoma Sunset Law, a Minority Teacher Recruitment Advisory Committee which shall have oversight over implementation of the Minority Teacher Recruitment Center and shall advise the operation of such Center~~ created an advisory consortium established by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. ~~The Advisory Committee shall be composed of nineteen (19) members. The presence of ten Advisory Committee members or their designees shall constitute a quorum. Appointments shall be made by July 1 with~~

1 ~~members serving a term of two (2) years unless no longer eligible.~~

2 ~~The Advisory Committee members shall be appointed as follows:~~

3 ~~1. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:~~

4 ~~a. two members from the Oklahoma House of~~
5 ~~Representatives,~~

6 ~~b. two members from an institution of higher education in~~
7 ~~The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. One~~
8 ~~appointee shall be from a comprehensive university.~~
9 ~~One appointee shall be from a two-year college,~~

10 ~~e. one member who is a public school teacher who is a~~
11 ~~minority,~~

12 ~~d. one member who is a superintendent or designee of a~~
13 ~~public school district, and~~

14 ~~e. two members representing a community with a high~~
15 ~~minority population. One appointee shall be African-~~
16 ~~American. One appointee shall be Hispanic;~~

17 ~~2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint:~~

18 ~~a. two members from the Oklahoma State Senate,~~

19 ~~b. two members from an institution of higher education in~~
20 ~~The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education with a~~
21 ~~teacher preparation program. One appointee shall be~~
22 ~~from a regional university,~~

23 ~~e. one member who is a public school teacher who is a~~
24 ~~minority,~~

1 d. ~~one member who is a principal of a public high school,~~
2 and

3 e. ~~two members representing a community with a high~~
4 minority population. ~~One appointee shall be American~~
5 Indian. ~~One appointee shall be Asian-American;~~

6 3. ~~The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or a designee~~
7 ~~shall serve as a member of the Advisory Committee;~~

8 4. ~~The Chancellor of Higher Education or a designee shall serve~~
9 ~~as a member of the Advisory Committee; and~~

10 5. ~~The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Commission for~~
11 ~~Teacher Preparation or a designee shall serve as a member of the~~
12 ~~Advisory Committee.~~

13 B. ~~Members of the Advisory Committee shall be reimbursed for~~
14 ~~attendance at the Advisory Committee meetings by the appointing~~
15 ~~agency pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act or Section 456~~
16 ~~of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Members of the Advisory~~
17 ~~Committee shall designate from among the members a chairperson and~~
18 ~~vice-chairperson. Staff assistance shall be provided by the~~
19 ~~Minority Teacher Recruitment Center.~~

20 C. ~~Persons who are members on the effective date of this act~~
21 ~~shall retain their membership until their terms are completed.~~

22 D. ~~The Minority Teacher Recruitment Advisory Committee advisory~~
23 ~~consortium shall:~~

1 1. ~~Make recommendations on the annual operating budget of the~~
2 ~~Minority Teacher Recruitment Center and verify that the funds~~
3 ~~allocated to the Center through the Oklahoma State Regents for~~
4 ~~Higher Education are utilized exclusively by the Center by function;~~

5 2. Advise the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education of
6 unmet needs within the state in the implementation of the ~~Center's~~
7 consortium's activities;

8 ~~3.~~ 2. Annually comment publicly on the progress of the ~~Center~~
9 consortium;

10 4. ~~3.~~ Assist the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in
11 developing and reporting information about the ~~Center~~ consortium
12 when necessary;

13 ~~5.~~ 4. Meet as often as necessary to conduct business; and

14 ~~6.~~ 5. Keep official minutes of the ~~Committee~~ consortium
15 meetings which shall be made available to the public upon request.

16 E. ~~As used in this section and Section 6-130 of this title,~~
17 ~~"minority" means a person who is a lawful resident of the State of~~
18 ~~Oklahoma and who is:~~

19 1. ~~African-American, a person having origins in any of the~~
20 ~~black racial groups of Africa;~~

21 2. ~~Hispanic, a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central~~
22 ~~or South American descent;~~

1 ~~3. Asian American, a person having origins in any of the~~
2 ~~original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian~~
3 ~~subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands; or~~

4 ~~4. American Indian and Alaskan Native, a person having origins~~
5 ~~in any of the original peoples of North America.~~

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-130, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 6-130. A. Recognizing the future significance and
9 challenge of educating a growing and highly diverse student
10 population in Oklahoma common schools and acknowledging the
11 underrepresentation of ~~minority~~ teachers of color among the state's
12 professional education staff, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
13 Education shall ~~have authority to~~ establish the ~~Minority Teacher~~
14 ~~Recruitment Center and staff~~ advisory consortium and administer its
15 work subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the
16 Legislature. Upon recommendations and advice from the ~~Minority~~
17 ~~Teacher Recruitment Advisory Committee re-created~~ advisory
18 consortium created pursuant to Section ~~±~~ 6-129.1 of this ~~act~~ title,
19 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are hereby directed
20 to work with the State Board of Education, the ~~Oklahoma Commission~~
21 ~~for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for Educational Quality and
22 Accountability and other agencies, boards and education
23 organizations in the interests of recruiting, retaining and placing
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1 ~~minority~~ teachers of color in the public schools of the State of
2 Oklahoma. Such efforts shall include, but not be limited to:

3 1. The provision and coordination of support services to
4 teacher training programs in state institutions of higher education,
5 including the funding of grants for campus-based recruitment,
6 retention and placement programs that assist ~~minority~~ students of
7 color who intend to become teachers;

8 2. The establishment and development of recruiting programs for
9 potential ~~minority~~ teachers of color, including but not limited to
10 pre-collegiate curricular courses that emphasize school success and
11 the opportunity to investigate teaching as a career choice, future
12 teacher clubs ~~and~~, collegiate programs and online or virtual
13 educational communication tools designed to recruit students making
14 transitions from other careers and other areas of study;

15 3. The hosting of conferences dealing with issues that ~~effect~~
16 ~~minority teacher~~ affect teachers of color recruitment, retention,
17 and placement;

18 4. The creation of activities in the public and private schools
19 of Oklahoma which enhance the image of the teaching profession; ~~and~~

20 5. The creation and development of placement services providing
21 assistance to both ~~minority educators~~ teachers of color and school
22 districts seeking to hire qualified ~~minority~~ teachers of color;

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1 6. Requiring each teacher education program to prepare a plan
2 with specific goals, strategies and deadlines for the recruitment,
3 admission, retention and graduation of teachers of color;

4 7. The provision and coordination of mentoring and induction
5 programs in school districts for teachers of color, particularly for
6 school districts in which at least thirty-five percent (35%) of the
7 students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches and
8 for teaching positions such as special education, bilingual
9 education, agricultural education, mathematics, science or
10 technology that have been identified as a critical need by the local
11 school board. These programs may include, but are not limited to,
12 culturally relevant teaching strategies for new teachers;

13 8. The establishment and development of financial and other
14 additional supports to assist public school paraprofessionals in the
15 completion of the career and development program pursuant to Section
16 6-127A of this title;

17 9. The establishment and administration of a "Grow Your Own
18 Teacher" grant competition to fund consortia that will carry out
19 Grow Your Own Teacher preparation programs to recruit and prepare
20 individuals with associate degrees or paraprofessionals to become
21 effective teachers, as provided for in Section 3 of this act; and

22 10. Report annually to the Legislature on the research, data
23 and evidence-based program initiatives being used by the advisory
24 consortium.

1 B. As used in this section, "teachers of color" means persons
2 who are certified to teach by the State Board of Education and who
3 belong to a racial or ethnic minority.

4 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-130.1 of Title 70, unless
6 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

7 A. As used in this section:

8 1. "Cohort" means a group of teacher education candidates who
9 are enrolled in and share experiences in the same program and are
10 linked by their desire to become teachers in hard-to-staff schools
11 and by their need for the services and supports offered by the
12 initiative;

13 2. "Community organization" means a nonprofit organization that
14 has a demonstrated capacity to train, develop and organize parent
15 and community leaders into a constituency that will hold the school
16 and school district accountable for achieving high academic
17 standards. In addition to organizations with a geographic focus,
18 "community organization" shall include general parent organizations,
19 organizations of special education or bilingual education parents
20 and school employee unions;

21 3. "Developmental classes" means classes in basic skill areas,
22 such as mathematics and language arts, that are prerequisite to but
23 not counted towards degree requirements of a teacher preparation
24 program;

1 4. "Eligible school" means a public elementary, middle or
2 secondary school in this state that serves a substantial percentage
3 of low-income students and that is either hard to staff or has hard-
4 to-staff teaching positions;

5 5. "Hard-to-staff school" means a public elementary, middle or
6 secondary school in this state in which at least thirty-five percent
7 (35%) of the students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price
8 lunches;

9 6. "Hard-to-staff teaching position" means a teaching category
10 such as special education, bilingual education, mathematics or
11 science that has been identified as a critical need by the local
12 school board;

13 7. "Parent and community leader" means an individual who has or
14 had a child enrolled in a school or schools that meet the definition
15 of a hard-to-staff school under this section and who has a history
16 of active involvement in the school or who has a history of working
17 to improve schools, including membership in a community
18 organization; and

19 8. "Program" means a Grow Your Own Teacher recruitment program
20 established by a consortium pursuant to this section that leads to a
21 bachelor's degree from a teacher education program accredited by the
22 Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability.

23 B. The advisory consortium shall award grants to qualified
24 programs that meet the following requirements:

1 1. A program shall be administered by a teacher education
2 program accredited by the Commission for Educational Quality and
3 Accountability in conjunction with at least one school district or
4 group of schools and one or more community organizations. The
5 program membership may also include a two-year institution of higher
6 education or a school employee union;

7 2. The program shall focus on a clearly defined set of eligible
8 schools that will participate in the program. The program shall
9 articulate the steps that it will carry out in preparing teachers
10 for its participating schools and in preparing teachers for one or
11 more hard-to-staff teaching positions in those schools;

12 3. A program candidate shall hold a minimum of an associate
13 degree or its equivalent, shall meet the definition of "public
14 school paraprofessional" and shall not hold a bachelor's degree;

15 4. The program shall employ effective procedures for teaching
16 the skills and knowledge needed to prepare highly effective
17 teachers. It shall include an evidence-based training program for
18 teachers about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) that includes
19 the effects of ACEs on the mental, physical, social, behavioral,
20 emotional and cognitive development of a student; ACEs as a risk
21 factor for the development of substance abuse disorders and other
22 at-risk health behaviors in students; trauma-informed principles and
23 practices for classrooms; and how early identification of children
24 exposed to one or more ACEs may improve educational outcomes.

1 Professional preparation shall include ongoing direct experience in
2 target schools and evaluation of this experience;

3 5. The program shall offer the program to cohorts of candidates
4 on a schedule that enables the candidates to work full time while
5 participating in the program and allows paraprofessionals to
6 continue in their current positions. In any fiscal year in which an
7 appropriation is made, the program shall guarantee that support will
8 be available to an admitted cohort for the cohort's education for
9 that fiscal year; and

10 6. The institutions of higher education participating in the
11 program shall document and agree to expend the same amount of funds
12 in implementing the program that these institutions spend per
13 student on similar educational programs. Grants received by the
14 program shall supplement and not supplant these amounts.

15 C. Subject to the availability of funding, every program shall
16 implement a program of forgivable loans to cover any portion of
17 tuition, books and fees of candidates under the program in excess of
18 the candidates' grants-in-aid. All students admitted to a cohort
19 may be eligible for a forgivable student loan. Loans may be
20 forgiven up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year for five
21 (5) years if a graduate completes a minimum of five (5) years of
22 service in hard-to-staff schools or hard-to-staff teaching
23 positions, with partial forgiveness for shorter periods of service.

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1 An annual statement shall be given to students admitted to a cohort
2 reflecting the outstanding balance of the loan.

3 D. The advisory consortium shall award grants in such a way as
4 to provide the required support for a cohort of candidates for any
5 fiscal year in which an appropriation is made. Program budgets
6 shall show expenditures and needed funds for the entire period that
7 candidates are expected to be enrolled.

8 E. No funds may be used to supplant the average per capita
9 expenditures by the institution of higher education for candidates.

10 F. The institution of higher education may expend grant funds
11 to cover additional professional development for a cohort.

12 G. The community organization or organizations may receive a
13 portion of the grant money for the expenses of recruitment,
14 community orientation and counseling of potential candidates, for
15 providing space in the community, and for working with school
16 personnel to facilitate individual work experiences and support of
17 candidates.

18 H. The school district or school employee union, or both, may
19 receive a portion of the grant money for expenses of supporting the
20 work experiences of candidates and providing mentors for graduates.

21 I. One or more members of the consortium may expend funds to
22 cover the salary of a site-based cohort coordinator.

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1 J. The advisory consortium may, if it chooses, award a small
2 number of planning grants during any fiscal year to potential
3 programs.

4 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

5 SECTION 5. 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 Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2019.

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11 _____
12 Presiding Officer of the House
13 of Representatives

14 Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2019.

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17 Presiding Officer of the Senate
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