

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 28, 2016

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE
5 BILL NO. 2946

6 By: Henke and Cockroft of the
7 House

8 and

9 Smalley of the Senate

10 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
11 Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter
12 137, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 6-190),
13 which relates to teacher certification; requiring the
14 State Board of Education to issue a certificate to
15 teach to persons holding an out-of-country
16 certificate or who complete certain examination;
17 adding out-of-country certificates to certain
18 requirements; deleting certain teaching experience
19 requirement; directing the Board to promulgate rules
20 for processing out-of-country certificates; limiting
21 areas of certification for persons completing a
22 certain examination; requiring certain persons to
23 have certain criminal history record checks on file;
24 providing for a temporary certificate; stating
responsibility for costs; amending Section 3, Chapter
394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 18-
114.14), which relates to the minimum teacher salary
schedule; directing the Board to accept certain out-
of-country teaching experience; establishing process
for analyzing certain out-of-country certification
documentation; stating responsibilities for costs;
directing the Board to accept teaching experience
from certain primary and secondary schools; adding
out-of-country certification to teaching credit
limitation; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

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

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as
3 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 137, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp.
4 2015, Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

5 Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school
6 district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in
7 Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified to teach by
8 the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher
9 Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for by Section 6-101
10 of this title and by other law.

11 B. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
12 who:

13 1. Has successfully completed the teacher education program
14 required by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation;

15 2. Has graduated from an accredited institution of higher
16 education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;

17 3. Has met all other requirements as may be established by the
18 Board;

19 4. Has made the necessary application and paid the competency
20 examination fee in an amount and as prescribed by the Commission;

21 5. Has successfully completed the competency examination
22 required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

23 6. Beginning November 1, 2001, has on file with the Board a
24 current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State

1 Bureau of Investigation as well as a national criminal history
2 record check as defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
3 Statutes. Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the
4 Board may issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective
5 until receipt of the national fingerprint-based criminal history
6 record. The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible
7 for the cost of the criminal history records.

8 C. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person
9 who:

10 1. Holds an out-of-state certificate and meets the requirements
11 set forth in subsection F of this section; ~~or~~

12 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional
13 Teaching Standards;

14 3. Holds an out-of-country certificate and meets the
15 requirements set forth in subsection F of this section; or

16 4. Has successfully completed a competency examination used in
17 the majority of other states **or comparable customized exam** and meets
18 the requirements set forth in subsection G of this section.

19 D. Beginning July 1, 2004, any person applying for initial
20 Oklahoma certification shall have on file with the Board a current
21 Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
22 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
23 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
24 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue

1 a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt of
2 the national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
3 applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the cost of the
4 criminal history records.

5 E. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to
6 January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the
7 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional
8 development requirements prescribed by the Oklahoma Teacher
9 Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

10 F. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person
11 who holds a valid out-of-state certificate or to a person who holds
12 a valid out-of-country certificate and meets any requirements
13 established by the Board. The certificate to teach shall only be
14 for those subject areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the
15 subject areas and grade levels recognized on the out-of-state or
16 out-of-country certificate.

17 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
18 subsection ~~and who has five (5) years of successful teaching~~
19 ~~experience as a certified teacher in an accredited school~~ shall not
20 be required to take any competency examinations in those subject
21 areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the subject areas and
22 grade levels recognized on the out-of-state or out-of-country
23 certificate.

24

1 3. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
2 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
3 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
4 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
5 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
6 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
7 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
8 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
9 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
10 cost of the criminal history record checks.

11 4. The Board shall promulgate rules establishing a process by
12 which out-of-country certificates will be reviewed and evaluated for
13 purposes of awarding a certificate to teach pursuant to this
14 subsection.

15 G. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person
16 who has successfully completed a competency exam used in a majority
17 of the other states. The certificate to teach shall only be for
18 those subject areas and grade levels that correspond with a
19 certification area used in Oklahoma.

20 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
21 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
22 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
23 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
24 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon

1 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
 2 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
 3 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
 4 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
 5 cost of the criminal history record checks.

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 394, O.S.L.
 7 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 18-114.14), is amended to read as
 8 follows:

9 Section 18-114.14. A. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school
 10 year, teachers in the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in
 11 salary and/or fringe benefits not less than the amounts specified in
 12 the following schedule:

13 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

14 National

15 Years of	Bachelor's	Board	Master's	Doctor's
16 Experience	Degree	Certification	Degree	Degree
17 0	\$31,600	\$32,600	\$32,800	\$34,000
18 1	\$31,975	\$32,975	\$33,175	\$34,375
19 2	\$32,350	\$33,350	\$33,550	\$34,750
20 3	\$32,725	\$33,725	\$33,925	\$35,125
21 4	\$33,100	\$34,100	\$34,300	\$35,500
22 5	\$33,500	\$34,500	\$34,700	\$35,900
23 6	\$33,900	\$34,900	<u>\$35,100</u>	\$36,300
24 7	\$34,300	\$35,300	\$35,500	\$36,700

1	8	\$34,700	\$35,700	\$35,900	\$37,100
2	9	\$35,100	\$36,100	\$36,300	\$37,500
3	10	\$35,950	\$36,950	\$37,575	\$39,625
4	11	\$36,375	\$37,375	\$38,000	\$40,050
5	12	\$36,800	\$37,800	\$38,425	\$40,475
6	13	\$37,225	\$38,225	\$38,850	\$40,900
7	14	\$37,650	\$38,650	\$39,275	\$41,325
8	15	\$38,075	\$39,075	\$39,700	\$41,750
9	16	\$38,500	\$39,500	\$40,125	\$42,175
10	17	\$38,925	\$39,925	\$40,550	\$42,600
11	18	\$39,350	\$40,350	\$40,975	\$43,025
12	19	\$39,775	\$40,775	\$41,400	\$43,450
13	20	\$40,200	\$41,200	\$41,825	\$43,875
14	21	\$40,625	\$41,625	\$42,250	\$44,300
15	22	\$41,050	\$42,050	\$42,675	\$44,725
16	23	\$41,475	\$42,475	\$43,100	\$45,150
17	24	\$41,900	\$42,900	\$43,525	\$45,575
18	25	\$42,325	\$43,325	\$43,950	\$46,000
19		Master's Degree +			
20	Years of	National Board			
21	Experience	Certification			
22	0	\$33,800			
23	1	\$34,175			
24	2	\$34,550			

1	3	\$34,925
2	4	\$35,300
3	5	\$35,700
4	6	\$36,100
5	7	\$36,500
6	8	\$36,900
7	9	\$37,300
8	10	\$38,575
9	11	\$39,000
10	12	\$39,425
11	13	\$39,850
12	14	\$40,275
13	15	\$40,700
14	16	\$41,125
15	17	\$41,550
16	18	\$41,975
17	19	\$42,400
18	20	\$42,825
19	21	\$43,250
20	22	\$43,675
21	23	\$44,100
22	24	\$44,525
23	25	\$44,950
24		

1 B. When determining the Minimum Salary Schedule, "fringe
2 benefits" shall mean all or part of retirement benefits, excluding
3 the contributions made pursuant to subsection A of Section 17-108.1
4 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the flexible benefit
5 allowance pursuant to Section 26-105 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma
6 Statutes from the flexible benefit allowance funds disbursed by the
7 State Board of Education and the State Board of Career and
8 Technology Education pursuant to Section 26-104 of Title 70 of the
9 Oklahoma Statutes.

10 C. Any of the degrees referred to in this section shall be from
11 a college recognized by the State Board of Education. The ~~State~~
12 ~~Board of Education~~ shall accept teaching experience from out-of-
13 state school districts that are accredited by the state board of
14 education or appropriate state accrediting agency for the districts.
15 The Board shall accept teaching experience from out-of-country
16 schools that are accredited or otherwise endorsed by the appropriate
17 national or regional accrediting or endorsement authority. Out-of-
18 country certification documentation in a language other than English
19 shall be analyzed by an educational credential evaluation service
20 approved by the National Association of Credential Evaluation
21 Services (NACES). The person seeking to have credit granted for
22 out-of-country teaching experience shall be responsible for all
23 costs of the analysis by a credential evaluation service. The Board
24 shall accept teaching experience from primary and secondary schools

1 that are operated by the United States Department of Defense or are
2 affiliated with the United States Department of State.

3 D. For the purpose of state salary increments and retirement,
4 no teacher shall be granted credit for more than five (5) years of
5 active duty in the military service or out-of-state or out-of-
6 country teaching experience as a certified teacher or its
7 equivalent. Nothing in this section shall prohibit boards of
8 education from crediting more years of experience on district salary
9 schedules than those allowed for state purposes.

10 E. The State Board of Education shall recognize, for purposes
11 of certification and salary increments, all the years of experience
12 of a:

13 1. Certified teacher who teaches in the educational program of
14 the Department of Corrections, beginning with fiscal year 1981;

15 2. Vocational rehabilitation counselor under the Department of
16 Human Services if the counselor was employed as a certified teacher
17 by the State Department of Education when the Division of Vocational
18 Rehabilitation was transferred from the State Board of Career and
19 Technology Education or the State Board of Education to the Oklahoma
20 Public Welfare Commission on July 1, 1968;

21 3. Vocational rehabilitation counselor which were completed
22 while employed by the Department of Human Services if such counselor
23 was certified as a teacher or was eligible for certification as a
24 teacher in Oklahoma;

1 4. Certified teacher which were completed while employed by the
2 Department of Human Services Child Study Center at University
3 Hospital, if the teacher was certified as a teacher in Oklahoma; and

4 5. Certified school psychologist or psychometrist which were
5 completed while employed as a doctoral intern, psychological
6 assistant, or psychologist with any agency of the State of Oklahoma
7 if the experience primarily involved work with persons of school- or
8 preschool-age and if the person was, at the time the experience was
9 acquired, certified as, or eligible for certification as, a school
10 psychologist or psychometrist.

11 F. The provisions of this section shall not apply to teachers
12 who have entered into postretirement employment with a public school
13 in Oklahoma and are still receiving a monthly retirement benefit.

14 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

15 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
16 of the public peace, health and 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.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
20 March 28, 2016 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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