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February 15, 2017

As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 15

By: Bice and Loveless

[teachers - teacher recruitment programs - Oklahoma
Teacher Recruitment Revolving Fund codification -
~~effective date -~~

~~emergency~~]

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-131 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Subject to the availability of funds, the State Department of Education and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, working in cooperation, shall:

1. Develop and implement programs to identify talented students and recruit those students and other persons into the teaching profession. Persons targeted for recruitment may include, but are not limited to, high school and undergraduate students, mid-career and retired professionals, honorably discharged and retired military personnel and members of underrepresented gender and ethnic groups;

2. Develop and distribute materials that emphasize the importance of the teaching profession and inform individuals about state-funded loan forgiveness and tuition assistance programs;

1 3. Give priority to developing and implementing recruitment
2 programs to address the areas of teacher shortage identified and the
3 recommendations made in the educator supply-and-demand study as
4 required by Section 6-211 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The
5 Department may use discretionary funds to carry out the provisions
6 of this paragraph;

7 4. Encourage cooperation between the business community and
8 school districts to develop recruitment programs designed to attract
9 and retain capable teachers, including programs to provide summer
10 employment opportunities for teachers; and

11 5. Encourage major education associations to cooperate in
12 developing a long-range program promoting teaching as a prestigious,
13 respected and desirable career and to assist in identifying local
14 activities and resources that may be used to promote the teaching
15 profession.

16 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-132 of Title 70, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) of the fee authorized by Section 1
20 of Enrolled Senate Bill No. 14 of the 1st Session of the 56th
21 Oklahoma Legislature, for Oklahoma License to Educate license plates
22 shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Teacher Recruitment Revolving
23 Fund created in subsection B of this section.

1 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
2 fund for the State Department of Education to be designated the
3 "Oklahoma Teacher Recruitment Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a
4 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall
5 consist of all monies received by the State Department of Education
6 pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section and any
7 donations, grants and gifts from any public or private source. All
8 monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated
9 and may be budgeted and expended by the State Department of
10 Education for the purpose of operating teacher recruitment programs.
11 Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the
12 State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the
13 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for
14 approval and payment.

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

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

20 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
21 February 15, 2017 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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