

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1990

By: Nollan

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to teacher certification; defining terms; directing State Board of Education to identify providers for teacher certification pilot program; requiring providers to apply to State Department of Education; establishing requirements for pilot programs; directing Board to ensure providers allow teacher candidates to demonstrate certain proficiency; permitting Board to suspend or revoke approval of a provider in certain cases; granting certification eligibility for teacher candidates who complete the program and meet certification requirements; requiring recommendation by approved provider; mandating compliance with state and national criminal history record checks; specifying who will pay for checks; directing provider to submit report to Department; providing for contents of report; requiring annual submission; authorizing Board to promulgate rules; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an 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 6-133 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. As used in this section:

2 1. "Provider" means an eligible entity that seeks or has
3 obtained approval for a new and innovative teacher preparation pilot
4 program consistent with this section; and

5 2. "Program" means content provided by a provider that leads
6 toward licensure in a specific content area.

7 B. The State Board of Education shall identify providers to
8 implement new and innovative pathways toward teacher certification
9 on a pilot program basis. Providers seeking to participate in the
10 pilot program shall submit applications to the State Department of
11 Education.

12 C. A provider chosen by the State Board of Education to
13 participate in the pilot program shall offer a program that:

14 1. Provides evidence and history of fiscal solvency, capacity,
15 operation and program effectiveness;

16 2. Provides evidence of necessary infrastructure to provide
17 accurate, timely and secure data for the purpose of admission,
18 teacher candidate monitoring, testing and certification
19 recommendations;

20 3. Has policies and procedures in place ensuring the security
21 of teacher candidate records under applicable laws and regulations;

22 4. Has the instructional capacity or ability to obtain the
23 instructional capacity to provide adequate instruction;
24

1 5. Offers an instructional phase that provides intensive
2 preparation before the teacher candidates assume classroom
3 responsibilities;

4 6. Offers a research-based and results-oriented approach
5 focused on best teaching practices to increase student achievement
6 and growth measured against state academic standards;

7 7. Provides assessment, supervision and evaluation of teacher
8 candidates to determine their specific needs throughout the program
9 and to support efforts to successfully complete the program;

10 8. Provides intensive and ongoing professional development
11 opportunities that accelerate a teacher candidate's professional
12 growth, support student learning and offer a workplace orientation,
13 professional staff development and mentoring;

14 9. Offers peer review focused on standards of professional
15 practice and continuous professional growth; and

16 10. Provides a process to review a teacher candidate's final
17 competency of required certification content standards that leads to
18 the potential candidate being recommended for teacher certification
19 in accordance with subsection F of this section.

20 D. The State Board of Education shall ensure that providers
21 approved to participate in the pilot program allow teacher
22 candidates to demonstrate pedagogy and content standards proficiency
23 in school-based programs and through other nontraditional means.
24 Nontraditional means may include but not be limited to previous work

1 experience, teacher experience, educator evaluations, industry-
2 recognized certifications and other essentially equivalent
3 demonstrations.

4 E. If the State Board of Education determines that a provider
5 fails to meet or is deficient in any of the requirements of this
6 section, it may suspend or revoke the approval of the provider after
7 providing notification of the deficiencies and an opportunity to
8 remedy the deficiencies.

9 F. A teacher candidate who completes a program offered by an
10 approved provider shall be eligible for certification, provided he
11 or she meets the certification requirements contained in Section 6-
12 187 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes in the area of
13 specialization for which certification is sought and is recommended
14 for certification by the approved provider.

15 G. The State Board of Education shall issue a certificate to
16 any person who meets the requirements of this section and who has on
17 file with the Board a current state criminal history record check
18 from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation as well as a
19 national criminal history record check as defined in Section 150.9
20 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The person applying for a
21 certificate shall be responsible for the cost of the criminal
22 history record checks.

23 H. A provider shall submit a report to the State Department of
24 Education after one (1) year of operation showing the percentage of

1 teacher candidates who have completed the program and who have
2 successfully completed or who have failed the competency
3 examinations for certification and the efforts of the provider to
4 help candidates successfully pass the examinations. A provider
5 shall annually submit evidence to the State Department of Education
6 after the pilot year with evidence of the success of the program.

7 I. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to
8 implement the provisions of this section.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

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

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