

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 217

By: Thompson of the Senate

3 and

4 Nollan of the House

5
6 [teacher certification - pilot program - effective
7 date -
8 emergency]

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

10 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-133 of Title 70, unless there
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13 A. As used in this section:

14 1. "Provider" means an eligible entity that seeks or has
15 obtained approval of an alternative teacher preparation program
16 consistent with this section; and

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

19 B. The State Board of Education shall identify providers to
20 implement new and innovative pathways toward teacher certification
21 on a pilot program basis. Providers seeking to participate in the
22 pilot program shall submit applications to the State Board of
23 Education.

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

3 1. Provides evidence and history of fiscal solvency, capacity,
4 operation and program effectiveness;

5 2. Provides evidence of necessary infrastructure to provide
6 accurate, timely and secure data for the purpose of admission,
7 teacher candidate monitoring, testing and certification
8 recommendations;

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

11 4. Has the instructional capacity or ability to obtain the
12 instructional capacity to provide adequate instruction in accordance
13 with this subsection;

14 5. Offers an instructional phase that provides intensive
15 preparation before the teacher candidates assume classroom
16 responsibilities;

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

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

23 8. Provides intensive and ongoing professional development
24 opportunities that accelerate a teacher candidate's professional

1 growth, support student learning and provide a workplace
2 orientation, professional staff development and mentoring;

3 9. Offers peer review focused on standards of professional
4 practice and continuous professional growth; and

5 10. Provides a process to review a teacher candidate's final
6 competency of required certification content standards that leads to
7 a potential candidate being recommended for teacher certification in
8 accordance with subsection F of this section.

9 D. The State Board of Education shall ensure that providers
10 approved to participate in the pilot program allow teacher
11 candidates to demonstrate pedagogy and content standard proficiency
12 in school-based programs and through other nontraditional means.
13 Nontraditional means may include but not be limited to previous work
14 experience, teacher experience, educator evaluations, industry-
15 recognized certifications and other essentially equivalent
16 demonstrations.

17 E. If the State Board of Education determines that a provider
18 fails to meet or is deficient in any of the requirements of this
19 section, it may suspend or revoke the approval of the provider after
20 providing notification of the deficiencies and an opportunity to
21 remedy the deficiencies.

22 F. A teacher candidate that completes a program offered by an
23 approved provider shall be eligible for certification, provided he
24 or she meets the certification requirements set forth in Section 6-

1 187 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes in the area of
2 specialization for which certification is sought and is recommended
3 for certification by the approved provider.

4 G. The State Board of Education shall issue a certificate to
5 teach to any person who meets the requirements set forth in this
6 section and who has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
7 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
8 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
9 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The
10 person applying for the certificate shall be responsible for the
11 cost of the criminal history records.

12 H. A provider shall submit a report to the State Department of
13 Education after one year of operation showing the percentage of
14 teacher candidates who have completed the program and who have
15 successfully completed or who have failed the competency
16 examinations for certification and the provider's efforts to help
17 candidates successfully pass the examinations. A provider shall
18 annually submit evidence to the State Department of Education after
19 the pilot year with evidence of the success of the program.

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

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

23 ~~SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation~~
24 ~~of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby~~

1 ~~declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and~~
2 ~~be in full force from and after its passage and approval.~~

3 Passed the Senate the 13th day of March, 2019.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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7 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
8 2019.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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