

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 27, 2019

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 217

6 By: Thompson

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

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

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

14 A. As used in this section:

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

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

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

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.  
10 The 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 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
4 February 27, 2019 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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