

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 756

By: Deevers

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teachers; creating the Local  
8 Teacher Licensure Act; providing short title;  
9 providing purpose; authorizing school district boards  
10 of education to evaluate and recommend teacher  
11 licensure or certification applications; providing  
12 process requirements for the State Board of  
13 Education; providing for certain failure to act  
14 within certain time period to result in certain  
15 approval if certain conditions are met; providing  
16 term of certain licenses or certificates; subjecting  
17 licenses or certificates to certain renewal;  
18 directing the State Board of Education to retain  
19 certain oversight; directing the State Department of  
20 Education to maintain certain records; directing  
21 school district boards of education to establish  
22 certain minimum procedures; providing for  
23 promulgation of rules; providing for codification;  
24 providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-117.8 of Title 70, unless  
21 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Local  
23 Teacher Licensure Act". The purpose of the Local Teacher Licensure  
24 Act shall be to grant school district boards of education the

1 authority to evaluate and recommend teacher licensure or  
2 certification applications. The State Board of Education shall  
3 maintain final oversight and ratification authority over the  
4 issuance of teacher licenses or certificates in compliance with  
5 Section 5 of Article XIII of the Oklahoma Constitution and Section  
6 3-104 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

7 B. School district boards of education are hereby authorized to  
8 evaluate and recommend approval of teacher licensure or  
9 certification applications to the State Board of Education based on  
10 the standards set forth in Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

11 C. Upon receiving a recommendation for licensure or  
12 certification from a school district board of education, the State  
13 Board of Education shall:

14 1. Review the recommendation for completeness and compliance  
15 with statutory requirements including, but not limited to, Sections  
16 5-142, 6-107, 6-122.3, 6-187, and 6-190 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma  
17 Statutes;

18 2. Approve or reject the licensure or certification  
19 recommendations within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt; and

20 3. Provide written notification of approval or rejection to the  
21 recommending school district board of education and the licensure or  
22 certification applicant.

23 D. Failure of the State Board of Education to act on a  
24 recommendation within thirty (30) calendar days pursuant to

1 subsection C of this section shall result in the Board's automatic  
2 approval of the license or certificate; provided, however, that the  
3 recommendation submitted by the school district board of education  
4 meets all statutory and procedural requirements set forth in Title  
5 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the rules promulgated by the Board.

6 E. Teacher licenses or certificates issued pursuant to the  
7 provisions of this section shall be valid for a term of five (5)  
8 years from the date of issuance and shall be subject to renewal in  
9 accordance with the provisions of Section 6-108.1 of Title 70 of the  
10 Oklahoma Statutes.

11 F. The State Board of Education shall retain oversight of all  
12 teacher licensure or certification processes, and the State  
13 Department of Education shall maintain all records regarding teacher  
14 licenses or certificates issued pursuant to this section.

15 G. School district boards of education shall establish  
16 transparent procedures for licensure or certification  
17 recommendations including:

18 1. Timelines for application submission, which shall provide  
19 teacher license or certificate applicants with a minimum of twenty  
20 (20) calendar days to complete the process;

21 2. A timeline for board of education review and approval or  
22 rejection, not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days from the date of  
23 application submission; and  
24

1           3. Written notification to the teacher license or certificate  
2 applicant and the State Department of Education within five (5)  
3 business days of the board of education's decision.

4           H. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to  
5 implement the provisions of this section.

6           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

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