

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 28, 2016

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 2371

By: Coody (Ann) of the House

5 and

6 Barrington of the Senate

7
8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
9 Section 6-182, as last amended by Section 9, Chapter
10 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 6-182),
11 which relates to the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act
12 definitions; modifying definition of a mentor
13 teacher; providing an effective date; and declaring
14 an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-182, as
17 last amended by Section 9, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp.
18 2015, Section 6-182), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 6-182. As used in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act:

20 1. "Board" means the State Board of Education;

21 2. "Commission" means the Commission for Educational Quality
22 and Accountability;

23 3. "State Regents" means the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
24 Education;

1 4. "Professional development program" means the program
2 mandated by the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for the continuous
3 improvement and enrichment of the certified and licensed teachers of
4 this state;

5 5. "Teacher education professional development committee" means
6 the committee created in Section 6-186 of this title for the
7 continuous improvement and enrichment of higher education faculty in
8 teacher education programs in institutions of higher education;

9 6. "Department" means the State Department of Education;

10 7. "Residency committee" means a committee in a school district
11 for the purpose of providing professional support, mentorship and
12 coaching to the resident teacher. A residency committee may consist
13 of one or more mentor teachers, the principal or an assistant
14 principal of the employing school, one or more administrators
15 designated by the school district board of education, a teacher
16 educator in a college or school of education of an institution of
17 higher education or an educator in a department or school outside
18 the institution's teacher education unit. If possible, qualified
19 mentor teachers shall have expertise in the teaching field of the
20 resident teacher and, if possible, the higher education members of
21 the residency committee shall have expertise and experience in the
22 teaching field of the resident teacher. However, in all cases, at
23 least one member of the residency committee shall have expertise and
24 experience in the teaching field of the resident teacher;

1 8. "Teacher" means a person defined as a teacher in Section 1-
2 116 of this title;

3 9. "Resident teacher" means any certified teacher who is
4 employed in an accredited school to serve as a teacher and the
5 school district has elected to place under the guidance and
6 assistance of a mentor teacher and residency committee. The
7 resident teacher shall have completed the program of the college or
8 school of education of the accredited institution of higher
9 education from which the person has been graduated, and shall have
10 successfully completed the competency examination in areas of
11 approval in which the resident teacher seeks certification;

12 10. "Certified teacher" means any teacher who has been issued a
13 certificate by the Board in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher
14 Preparation Act and the rules of the Board;

15 11. "Mentor teacher" means any teacher ~~holding a standard~~
16 ~~certificate who is employed in a school district to serve as a~~
17 ~~teacher and~~ who has been appointed to provide guidance, support,
18 coaching and assistance to a resident teacher employed by the school
19 district. A mentor teacher shall be a current or former classroom
20 teacher and have a minimum of two (2) years of classroom teaching
21 experience as a certified teacher.

22 A mentor teacher shall be selected by the principal from a list
23 of qualified teacher volunteers who have submitted their names for
24 that purpose. After compilation of the list, the principal shall

1 provide opportunity for input from the bargaining agent, where one
2 exists. Membership or nonmembership in a professional teacher
3 organization shall not be considered as a factor in selecting a
4 mentor teacher. When possible, a mentor teacher shall have
5 successfully completed a mentor teacher professional development
6 institute ~~and be assigned to the same school site~~ and have similar
7 certification as the resident teacher;

8 12. "Higher education faculty" means any individual who is
9 employed in a teaching capacity in an institution of higher
10 education, approved or accredited by the Commission for the
11 preparation of education personnel; and

12 13. "Competency examination" means the assessment required in
13 the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act for certification as a teacher
14 and shall consist of tests over general education, professional
15 education and subject areas as defined by the Commission for
16 Educational Quality and Accountability.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

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

22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
23 March 28, 2016 - DO PASS
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