

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2946

By: Henke and Cockroft of the  
House

3 and

4 Smalley of the Senate  
5  
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8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,  
9 Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter  
10 137, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 6-190),  
11 which relates to teacher certification; requiring the  
12 State Board of Education to issue a certificate to  
13 teach to persons holding an out-of-country  
14 certificate or who complete certain examination;  
15 adding out-of-country certificates to certain  
16 requirements; deleting certain teaching experience  
17 requirement; directing the Board to promulgate rules  
18 for processing out-of-country certificates; limiting  
19 areas of certification for persons completing a  
20 certain examination; requiring certain persons to  
21 have certain criminal history record checks on file;  
22 providing for a temporary certificate; stating  
23 responsibility for costs; amending Section 3, Chapter  
24 394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 18-  
114.14), which relates to the minimum teacher salary  
schedule; directing the Board to accept certain out-  
of-country teaching experience; establishing process  
for analyzing certain out-of-country certification  
documentation; stating responsibilities for costs;  
directing the Board to accept teaching experience  
from certain primary and secondary schools; adding  
out-of-country certification to teaching credit  
limitation; providing an effective date; and  
declaring an emergency.

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

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as  
2 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 137, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp.  
3 2015, Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school  
5 district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in  
6 Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified to teach by  
7 the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher  
8 Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for by Section 6-101  
9 of this title and by other law.

10 B. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person  
11 who:

12 1. Has successfully completed the teacher education program  
13 required by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation;

14 2. Has graduated from an accredited institution of higher  
15 education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education;

16 3. Has met all other requirements as may be established by the  
17 Board;

18 4. Has made the necessary application and paid the competency  
19 examination fee in an amount and as prescribed by the Commission;

20 5. Has successfully completed the competency examination  
21 required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

22 6. Beginning November 1, 2001, has on file with the Board a  
23 current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State  
24 Bureau of Investigation as well as a national criminal history

1 record check as defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma  
2 Statutes. Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the  
3 Board may issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective  
4 until receipt of the national fingerprint-based criminal history  
5 record. The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible  
6 for the cost of the criminal history records.

7 C. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to any person  
8 who:

9 1. Holds an out-of-state certificate and meets the requirements  
10 set forth in subsection F of this section; ~~or~~

11 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional  
12 Teaching Standards;

13 3. Holds an out-of-country certificate and meets the  
14 requirements set forth in subsection F of this section; or

15 4. Has successfully completed a competency examination used in  
16 the majority of other states and meets the requirements set forth in  
17 subsection G of this section.

18 D. Beginning July 1, 2004, any person applying for initial  
19 Oklahoma certification shall have on file with the Board a current  
20 Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of  
21 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as  
22 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon  
23 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue  
24 a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt of

1 the national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person  
2 applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the cost of the  
3 criminal history records.

4 E. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to  
5 January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the  
6 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional  
7 development requirements prescribed by the Oklahoma Teacher  
8 Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

9 F. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person  
10 who holds a valid out-of-state certificate or to a person who holds  
11 a valid out-of-country certificate and meets any requirements  
12 established by the Board. The certificate to teach shall only be  
13 for those subject areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the  
14 subject areas and grade levels recognized on the out-of-state or  
15 out-of-country certificate.

16 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this  
17 subsection ~~and who has five (5) years of successful teaching~~  
18 ~~experience as a certified teacher in an accredited school~~ shall not  
19 be required to take any competency examinations in those subject  
20 areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the subject areas and  
21 grade levels recognized on the out-of-state or out-of-country  
22 certificate.

23 3. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this  
24 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma

1 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of  
2 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as  
3 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon  
4 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may  
5 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt  
6 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.  
7 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the  
8 cost of the criminal history record checks.

9 4. The Board shall promulgate rules establishing a process by  
10 which out-of-country certificates will be reviewed and evaluated for  
11 purposes of awarding a certificate to teach pursuant to this  
12 subsection.

13 G. 1. The Board shall issue a certificate to teach to a person  
14 who has successfully completed a competency exam used in a majority  
15 of the other states. The certificate to teach shall only be for  
16 those subject areas and grade levels that correspond with a  
17 certification area used in Oklahoma.

18 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this  
19 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma  
20 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of  
21 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as  
22 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon  
23 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may  
24 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt

1 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.  
 2 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the  
 3 cost of the criminal history record checks.

4 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 394, O.S.L.  
 5 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 18-114.14), is amended to read as  
 6 follows:

7 Section 18-114.14 A. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year,  
 8 teachers in the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary  
 9 and/or fringe benefits not less than the amounts specified in the  
 10 following schedule:

11 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

12 National

13 Years of	Bachelor's	Board	Master's	Doctor's
14 Experience	Degree	Certification	Degree	Degree
15 0	\$31,600	\$32,600	\$32,800	\$34,000
16 1	\$31,975	\$32,975	\$33,175	\$34,375
17 2	\$32,350	\$33,350	\$33,550	\$34,750
18 3	\$32,725	\$33,725	\$33,925	\$35,125
19 4	\$33,100	\$34,100	\$34,300	\$35,500
20 5	\$33,500	\$34,500	\$34,700	\$35,900
21 6	\$33,900	\$34,900	<u>\$35,100</u>	\$36,300
22 7	\$34,300	\$35,300	\$35,500	\$36,700
23 8	\$34,700	\$35,700	\$35,900	\$37,100
24 9	\$35,100	\$36,100	\$36,300	\$37,500

1	10	\$35,950	\$36,950	\$37,575	\$39,625
2	11	\$36,375	\$37,375	\$38,000	\$40,050
3	12	\$36,800	\$37,800	\$38,425	\$40,475
4	13	\$37,225	\$38,225	\$38,850	\$40,900
5	14	\$37,650	\$38,650	\$39,275	\$41,325
6	15	\$38,075	\$39,075	\$39,700	\$41,750
7	16	\$38,500	\$39,500	\$40,125	\$42,175
8	17	\$38,925	\$39,925	\$40,550	\$42,600
9	18	\$39,350	\$40,350	\$40,975	\$43,025
10	19	\$39,775	\$40,775	\$41,400	\$43,450
11	20	\$40,200	\$41,200	\$41,825	\$43,875
12	21	\$40,625	\$41,625	\$42,250	\$44,300
13	22	\$41,050	\$42,050	\$42,675	\$44,725
14	23	\$41,475	\$42,475	\$43,100	\$45,150
15	24	\$41,900	\$42,900	\$43,525	\$45,575
16	25	\$42,325	\$43,325	\$43,950	\$46,000

17 Master's Degree +

18 Years of National Board

19 Experience Certification

20	0	\$33,800
21	1	\$34,175
22	2	\$34,550
23	3	\$34,925
24	4	\$35,300

1	5	\$35,700
2	6	\$36,100
3	7	\$36,500
4	8	\$36,900
5	9	\$37,300
6	10	\$38,575
7	11	\$39,000
8	12	\$39,425
9	13	\$39,850
10	14	\$40,275
11	15	\$40,700
12	16	\$41,125
13	17	\$41,550
14	18	\$41,975
15	19	\$42,400
16	20	\$42,825
17	21	\$43,250
18	22	\$43,675
19	23	\$44,100
20	24	\$44,525
21	25	\$44,950

22 B. When determining the Minimum Salary Schedule, "fringe  
23 benefits" shall mean all or part of retirement benefits, excluding  
24 the contributions made pursuant to subsection A of Section 17-108.1



1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the flexible benefit  
2 allowance pursuant to Section 26-105 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma  
3 Statutes from the flexible benefit allowance funds disbursed by the  
4 State Board of Education and the State Board of Career and  
5 Technology Education pursuant to Section 26-104 of Title 70 of the  
6 Oklahoma Statutes.

7 C. Any of the degrees referred to in this section shall be from  
8 a college recognized by the State Board of Education. The ~~State~~  
9 ~~Board of Education~~ shall accept teaching experience from out-of-  
10 state school districts that are accredited by the state board of  
11 education or appropriate state accrediting agency for the districts.  
12 The Board shall accept teaching experience from out-of-country  
13 schools that are accredited or otherwise endorsed by the appropriate  
14 national or regional accrediting or endorsement authority. Out-of-  
15 country certification documentation in a language other than English  
16 shall be analyzed by an educational credential evaluation service  
17 approved by the National Association of Credential Evaluation  
18 Services (NACES). The person seeking to have credit granted for  
19 out-of-country teaching experience shall be responsible for all  
20 costs of the analysis by a credential evaluation service. The Board  
21 shall accept teaching experience from primary and secondary schools  
22 that are operated by the United States Department of Defense or are  
23 affiliated with the United States Department of State.

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1 D. For the purpose of state salary increments and retirement,  
2 no teacher shall be granted credit for more than five (5) years of  
3 active duty in the military service or out-of-state or out-of-  
4 country teaching experience as a certified teacher or its  
5 equivalent. Nothing in this section shall prohibit boards of  
6 education from crediting more years of experience on district salary  
7 schedules than those allowed for state purposes.

8 E. The State Board of Education shall recognize, for purposes  
9 of certification and salary increments, all the years of experience  
10 of a:

11 1. Certified teacher who teaches in the educational program of  
12 the Department of Corrections, beginning with fiscal year 1981;

13 2. Vocational rehabilitation counselor under the Department of  
14 Human Services if the counselor was employed as a certified teacher  
15 by the State Department of Education when the Division of Vocational  
16 Rehabilitation was transferred from the State Board of Career and  
17 Technology Education or the State Board of Education to the Oklahoma  
18 Public Welfare Commission on July 1, 1968;

19 3. Vocational rehabilitation counselor which were completed  
20 while employed by the Department of Human Services if such counselor  
21 was certified as a teacher or was eligible for certification as a  
22 teacher in Oklahoma;

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1           4. Certified teacher which were completed while employed by the  
2 Department of Human Services Child Study Center at University  
3 Hospital, if the teacher was certified as a teacher in Oklahoma; and

4           5. Certified school psychologist or psychometrist which were  
5 completed while employed as a doctoral intern, psychological  
6 assistant, or psychologist with any agency of the State of Oklahoma  
7 if the experience primarily involved work with persons of school- or  
8 preschool-age and if the person was, at the time the experience was  
9 acquired, certified as, or eligible for certification as, a school  
10 psychologist or psychometrist.

11           F. The provisions of this section shall not apply to teachers  
12 who have entered into postretirement employment with a public school  
13 in Oklahoma and are still receiving a monthly retirement benefit.

14           SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

15           SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
16 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 7th day of March, 2016.

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3 \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

5 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Presiding Officer of the Senate