

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: S1/28/09 S2/3/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 108

5 By: Senator Teague
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE A LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE TO
10 PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO RETIRE AFTER TEACHING
11 FOR TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

15 TO PROVIDE A LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE
16 TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO RETIRE
17 AFTER TEACHING FOR TWENTY-FIVE (25)
18 YEARS.
19
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22

23 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2602 is amended to read as follows:*
24 *6-17-2602. Definitions.*

25 *As used in this subchapter:*

26 *(1) "Educational setting" means the employment setting where the*
27 *~~certified~~ licensed employee works, including without limitation:*

28 *(A) A public or private school;*

29 *(B) An institution of higher education;*

30 *(C) An education service cooperative;*

31 *(D) The Department of Education;*

32 *(E) An adult education setting; or*

33 *(F) Another agency or organization that employs licensed*

34 *teachers for educational purposes;*

35 *(2) "Professional development" means a coordinated set of*
36 *planned, learning development activities for teachers that are standards-*



1 based and that meet the focus areas for professional development required by
2 the department; and

3 (3) "Teaching experience" means the experience gained while working
4 in an educational setting as a teacher, librarian, counselor, administrator,
5 educational consultant, substitute teacher, or other ~~certified~~ licensed
6 employee.

7
8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2603 is amended to read as follows:
9 6-17-2603. Eligibility.

10 To be eligible for a lifetime teaching license, the ~~certified~~ licensed
11 employee must:

12 (1) Hold a current or expired Arkansas teaching license; or

13 (2) Meet the following criteria:

14 (A) Be over sixty-five (65) years of age, and have either:

15 ~~(3)(A)(i) Have worked~~ Worked in an educational
16 setting while maintaining an Arkansas teaching license; or

17 ~~(B)(ii) Have made~~ Made significant
18 contributions to education, educational research, or the profession of
19 teaching through scholarly endeavors, teaching experience, excellence in
20 teaching, or educational innovation; or

21 (B) Be a retired public school teacher who taught public
22 school for not less than twenty-five (25) years.

23
24 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2604(a) and (b), concerning the
25 application for a lifetime teaching license, are amended to read as follows:

26 (a)(1) ~~Beginning July 1, 2008, a~~ A person who meets the eligibility
27 requirements of § 6-17-2603 ~~and who wishes to obtain a lifetime teaching~~
28 ~~license shall apply for the lifetime teaching license within twelve (12)~~
29 ~~calendar months after his or her sixty fifth birthday~~ may apply for a
30 lifetime teaching license by filing an application with the Department of
31 Education.

32 (b)(1) The State Board of Education shall review the application.

33 (2) If the state board approves the application, ~~it~~ the state
34 board shall ~~continue~~ reissue the applicant's current or expired Arkansas
35 teaching license as a lifetime teaching license.

36 (3) ~~Lifetime teaching license applicants are~~ A lifetime teaching

1 license applicant is subject to a criminal background check under § 6-17-410
2 upon application.

3 /s/ Teague
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36