For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT CONCERNING RULES FOR TEACHER LICENSURE; TO
ALLOW FOR THE REINSTATMENT OF A REVOKED TEACHING
LICENSE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO ALLOW FOR THE REINSTATMENT OF A
REVOKED TEACHING LICENSE UNDER CERTAIN
CONDITIONS.

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

SECTION 1.  Arkansas Code § 6-17-402(j), concerning State Board of
Education rules for teacher licensure, is amended to read as follows:
(j) Rules of the state board shall identify the following as core
licensure content areas:
(1) Early Childhood Elementary education (K-6);
(2) English language arts;
(3) Mathematics;
(4) Science;
(5) Social Studies;
(6) Art;
(7) Music; and
(8) Foreign Language.
(k)(1) The state board may promulgate rules to reinstate a revoked
(2) Rules promulgated under subdivision (k)(1) of this section shall include without limitation the following:

(A) Information and requirements regarding an application for reinstatement of a revoked teaching license; and

(B) The use of evidence by the state board to determine whether the applicant for reinstatement of a revoked teaching license:

(i) Is rehabilitated, recovered, or in recovery, as applicable;

(ii) Has made restitution, as applicable;

(iii) Is currently fit to return to an educational environment appropriate to the licensure level of the applicant; and

(iv) Does not pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of public school students and public school employees.

(3) An individual whose teaching license was revoked following an ethics complaint under § 6-17-428 shall release to the state board any confidential information regarding the ethics complaint made against the individual upon the individual’s application for reinstatement of his or her revoked teaching license.

(4) Except as provided under subdivision (k)(6) of this section, an applicant for reinstatement of a revoked teaching license shall not apply for reinstatement of his or her revoked teaching license until:

(A) Ten (10) years after the date of revocation of the teaching license for:

(i) A felony disqualifying offense under § 6-17-410; or

(ii) An ethics violation under § 6-17-428; or

(B) Five (5) years after the date of revocation for any other reason not identified under subdivision (k)(4)(A).

(5) If an applicant for reinstatement of a revoked teaching license has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry, the state board may reinstate the applicant’s revoked teaching license with or without a hearing if the applicant provides evidence from the Department of Human Services that the department has removed the applicant’s name from the Child Maltreatment Central Registry.

(6) The state board shall not reinstate a revoked teaching license when the reason for the revocation concerned the:
(A) Physical or sexual injury of another person;
(B) Physical or sexual abuse of another person;
(C) Physical mistreatment of another person resulting in death; or
(D) Sexual mistreatment of another person.

APPROVED: 4/1/19