

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1968

4
5 By: Representative G. Hodges

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS TEACHER PREPARATION
9 QUALITY ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

12 ARKANSAS TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY ACT.

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

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18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, is amended to add an
19 additional subchapter to read as follows:

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21 Subchapter 29 -- The Arkansas Teacher Preparation Program Quality Act
22 of 2015.

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24 6-17-2901. Title.

25 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas
26 Teacher Preparation Program Quality Act of 2015".

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28 6-17-2902. Findings.

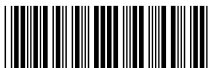
29 The General Assembly finds that:

30 (1) Quality teacher preparation programs are essential in
31 providing a strong teacher workforce across the state;

32 (2) The state supports a variety of teacher preparation
33 programs;

34 (3) A data system to track the effectiveness of teacher
35 preparation programs by following teachers is already established; and

36 (4) The state and its citizens have a vested interest in the



1 quality of teacher preparation programs for teachers.

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3 6-17-2903. Intent.

4 It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide the public with
5 information regarding the quality and effectiveness of teacher preparation
6 programs in the state by evaluating teacher preparation programs using
7 measureable data that will:

8 (1) Support quality instructional practices in teacher
9 preparation programs;

10 (2) Improve student learning;

11 (3) Encourage teacher preparation programs to continually assess
12 and improve practices; and

13 (4) Improve teacher recruitment and retention efforts.

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15 6-17-2904. Reporting.

16 (a) Beginning on July 1, 2016, and each July 1 thereafter, the
17 Department of Education shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of all
18 teacher preparation programs in the state using data collected from each
19 teacher in his or her first five (5) years of placement as a teacher of
20 record in a school district.

21 (b) The report shall include without limitation the correlation
22 between different teacher preparation programs in the state and:

23 (1) Student academic achievement;

24 (2) Student academic growth;

25 (3) Student demographics;

26 (4) Teacher placement;

27 (5) Teacher mobility; and

28 (6) Teacher retention.

29 (c) The Department of Education shall collaborate with teacher
30 education program providers and the Department of Higher Education to make
31 the report available to the public on the website of the Department of
32 Education within thirty (30) days of completion.

33 (d) The information from the report shall be utilized by the State
34 Board of Education and teacher education program providers to evaluate and
35 improve the effectiveness of teacher education programs.

36 (e) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules needed to

1 implement this section, including without limitation rules addressing:

2 (1) Which teacher preparation programs are included; and

3 (2) The measurements that will be used by the Department of
4 Education to evaluate teacher preparation programs, including without
5 limitation:

6 (A) Student academic achievement;

7 (B) Student academic growth;

8 (C) Student demographics;

9 (D) Teacher placement;

10 (E) Teacher mobility;

11 (F) Teacher retention; and

12 (G) The method used to analyze the data.

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