

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 As Engrossed: H1/28/09 H1/30/09 S2/12/09

2 87th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL 1133

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5 By: Representatives Blount, Abernathy, T. Baker, Cook, Davis, Flowers, Hardy, House, W. Lewellen,

6 McLean, Rainey, Saunders, Wagner, Williams, Word

7 By: Senator Elliott

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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11 AN ACT TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION
12 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE;
13 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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16 AN ACT TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY AND
17 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
18 LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE.

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

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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2603 is amended to read as follows:

24 6-17-2603. Eligibility.

25 To be eligible for a lifetime teaching license, the ~~certified~~ licensed
26 ~~employee~~ educator must:

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

28 (2) Be ~~over sixty-five (65)~~ at least sixty-two (62) years of
29 age; and

30 (3)~~(A)~~ Have either:

31 (A) ~~worked~~ Worked in an educational setting while
32 maintaining an Arkansas teaching license; or

33 (B) ~~Have made~~ Made significant contributions to education,
34 educational research, or the profession of teaching through scholarly
35 endeavors, teaching experience, excellence in teaching, or educational
36 innovation.



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2 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2604 is amended to read as follows:
3 6-17-2604. Lifetime teaching license.

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

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

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

14 (3) ~~Lifetime~~ A lifetime teaching license ~~applicants are~~
15 applicant is subject to a criminal background check under § 6-17-410 upon
16 application.

17 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the lifetime
18 teaching license shall ~~be reissued every five (5) years~~ terminate upon the
19 death or legal incapacity of the license holder.

20 (d) A lifetime teaching license is subject to the same laws for
21 revocation as any Arkansas teaching license.

22 (e) A person who holds a lifetime teaching license is not required to
23 renew his or her teaching license.

24 (f)~~(1)~~ Except to the extent required by § 6-17-2605, A a lifetime
25 teaching license holder is not subject to the requirements for annual
26 professional development.

27 ~~(2) An eligible person who retired prior to July 31, 2007, is~~
28 ~~not subject to future professional development requirements.~~

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30 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2605(b), concerning employment of a
31 lifetime teaching license holder by a public school district, is amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (b) A lifetime teaching license holder who becomes employed as a
34 licensed educator by a school district shall participate in the professional
35 development programs required by the employing school district.

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/s/ Blount