

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 S3/18/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 108

5 By: Senator Teague
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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.
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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 § 6-17-2602 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.

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8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2603, as amended by Act 224 of 2009,
9 is amended to read as follows:

10 6-17-2603. Eligibility.

11 To be eligible for a lifetime teaching license, the licensed educator
12 must:

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

14 (2) Meet the following criteria:

15 (A) Be at least sixty-two (62) years of age, and have
16 either:

17 ~~(3) Have either:~~

18 ~~(A)(i)~~ Worked in an educational setting while maintaining
19 an Arkansas teaching license; or

20 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Made significant contributions to education,
21 educational research, or the profession of teaching through scholarly
22 endeavors, teaching experience, excellence in teaching, or educational
23 innovation; or

24 (B) Have retired as a public school teacher who taught
25 public school for not less than twenty-five (25) years.

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

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

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

36 (2) If the state board approves the application, ~~it~~ the state

1 board shall ~~continue~~ reissue the applicant's current or expired Arkansas
2 teaching license as a lifetime teaching license.

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

6 /s/ Teague

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