

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H2/2/21 H3/1/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1173

5 By: Representative Tollett
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
9 EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND
10 SECONDARY EDUCATION; TO AMEND THE REQUIRED
11 QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON APPOINTED AS THE
12 SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE
13 COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION;
14 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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18 TO AMEND THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR
19 A PERSON APPOINTED AS THE SECRETARY OF
20 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE
21 COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
22 EDUCATION.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102(c)(1), concerning the
28 qualifications of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, is
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) The person selected as the commissioner shall:

31 (A) Be a person of good moral character, recognized as a
32 leader in the field of education, and qualified technically and by experience
33 to direct the work of the division; ~~and~~

34 (B) ~~Unless a deputy commissioner meets the requirements of~~
35 ~~this subdivision (c)(1)(B), a person selected as commissioner shall:~~

36 ~~(i)~~ Hold a master's degree from an accredited



1 institution;

2 ~~(ii)~~(C) Have had ten (10) years' experience as a
3 teacher, five (5) of which must be of an administrative or supervisory
4 nature; and

5 ~~(iii)~~(D) Hold a valid state teacher's license.
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7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102, concerning the Commissioner of
8 Elementary and Secondary Education, is amended to add an additional
9 subsection to read as follows:

10 (g)(1) The person selected as the secretary shall:

11 (A) Be a person of good moral character, recognized as a
12 leader in the field of education, and qualified technically and by experience
13 to direct the work of the division; and

14 (B) Unless the commissioner and a deputy commissioner meet
15 the requirements under this subdivision (g)(1)(B), a person selected as
16 secretary shall:

17 (i) Hold a master's degree from an accredited
18 institution;

19 (ii) Have had ten (10) years' experience as a
20 teacher, five (5) years of which must be of an administrative or supervisory
21 nature; and

22 (iii) Hold a valid state teacher's license.

23 (2) No person who is related within the fourth degree of consanguinity
24 or affinity to any member of the state board shall be eligible to serve as
25 secretary.

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27 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall be
28 effective on and after July 1, 2023.

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30 /s/Tollett

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