

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: H3/6/19
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1600

By: Representative G. Hodges

By: Senator J. Sturch

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM; TO CONSIDER AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EARNS A TEACHING LICENSE UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN *ALTERNATIVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM* AN *ELIGIBLE APPLICANT UNDER THE* STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CONSIDER AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EARNS A TEACHING LICENSE UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT UNDER THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1605(3), concerning eligibility criteria established by the Department of Higher Education for applicants to the State Teacher Education Program, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) Meet additional continuing eligibility criteria established by the Department of Higher Education.

(B) An individual who has earned a teaching license upon the successful completion of the an alternative educator preparation program is an eligible student under this section.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1606(a), concerning the duration and amount of loan repayments under the State Teacher Education Program, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The State Teacher Education Program shall be used to provide a loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of:

(1) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in this state or successfully completed an alternative educator preparation program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in this state program:

(A) In a subject area designated by the Department of Higher Education in consultation with the Department of Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; or

(B) Located in a geographical area of the state designated by the Department of Higher Education in consultation with the Department of Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; and

(2) An additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who ~~is:~~

(A) Is a minority and who graduated;

(B) Either:

(i) Graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004; or

(ii) Successfully completed an alternative educator preparation program; and teaches

(C) Teaches in a public school in this state.

/s/G. Hodges

APPROVED: 3/29/19