

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

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

HOUSE BILL 1173

By: Representative Tollett

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION; TO AMEND THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON APPOINTED AS THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON APPOINTED AS THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102(c)(1), concerning the qualifications of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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



institution;

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

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

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102, concerning the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/Tollett