



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

RED BANNER UPDATE

Date: May 13th, 2022

Re: SB 1631

Signed: April 22nd, 2022

Effective: July 1st, 2022

Topic: **Creation of a Two-year Pilot Program for Mentor Teacher Training**

Summary: Senate Bill 1631 (the “Bill”) creates new law to be codified at OKLA. STAT. tit. 70, § 3-116.6 and requires the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (the “Commission”) to establish a two-year pilot program for mentor teacher training. If funds are available, mentor teachers that complete the training pilot program will be provided a one-time stipend of \$3,000.

The Details of the Pilot Program

“Mentor teacher” means a teacher appointed to provide guidance, support, coaching, and assistance to an inductee employed by the school. Mentor teachers must be current or former teachers and have at least two (2) years of classroom experience as a certified teacher.

The pilot program will provide mentor teachers that have taught for 5+ years with coaching tools to guide, support, and assist teachers that have been employed for one year in the areas of classroom management, curriculum, differentiation of instruction, and other pedagogical techniques. The Bill states that the goal of the pilot program will be to train one mentor teacher from each district in the state over the two-year period.

Administering the Pilot Program

The Commission will give introductory and exit surveys to teachers placed under the mentorship of a mentor teacher and will create a standardized survey form to measure their mentorship experience. The Bill requires the Commission to submit a report to legislators by July 1, 2026, which will include aggregate data from the standardized survey forms and recommendations for the program moving



forward. Lastly, the new statute requires the Commission to promulgate rules for its implementation.

For More Information

Please visit the firm's website to view the signed Act.

RFR attorneys are reviewing this legislation and will be advising clients as to any recommended changes to existing district policies.