An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-106.1, which relates to mentor teacher stipends; directing the allocation of funds to school districts for certain purpose; directing a mentor teacher to provide certain support to certain teachers; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-106.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-106.1. If funds are appropriated to the A. The State Board of Education shall allocate funds to school districts for Mentor Teacher Stipends, the. The funds shall be distributed by the Board to the school districts to provide a stipend of not more than Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per year for each mentor teacher as defined in Section 6-182 of this title. In addition to the distribution of the five-hundred-dollar stipend, each district shall also receive the district’s contribution amount necessary to meet the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (F.I.C.A.) requirements.
B. A mentor teacher shall provide guidance, support, coaching, and assistance to a teacher in his or her first year of teaching at an employing school district, regardless of the length of time the teacher has been certified.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 14th day of March, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ___ day of ________, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives