

February 24, 2014

The Honorable Mary Fallin, Governor State of Oklahoma

Dear Governor Fallin:

Re: Request for Supplemental Funds for Fiscal Year 2014

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) is requesting a supplemental budget appropriation of \$6,540,794 to fully fund Flexible Benefits Allowance (FBA) in the current fiscal year.

The FBA provides funding to districts to cover the cost of insuring full-time staff and support personnel. Based on data certified January 1, school districts have added more than 1,300 employees eligible for state-funded insurance since October 2012. The increase in cost is due in part to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Under ACA, school districts are required to offer health insurance for employees who work on average at least 30 hours per week.

Sincerely,

Janet C. Barresi

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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