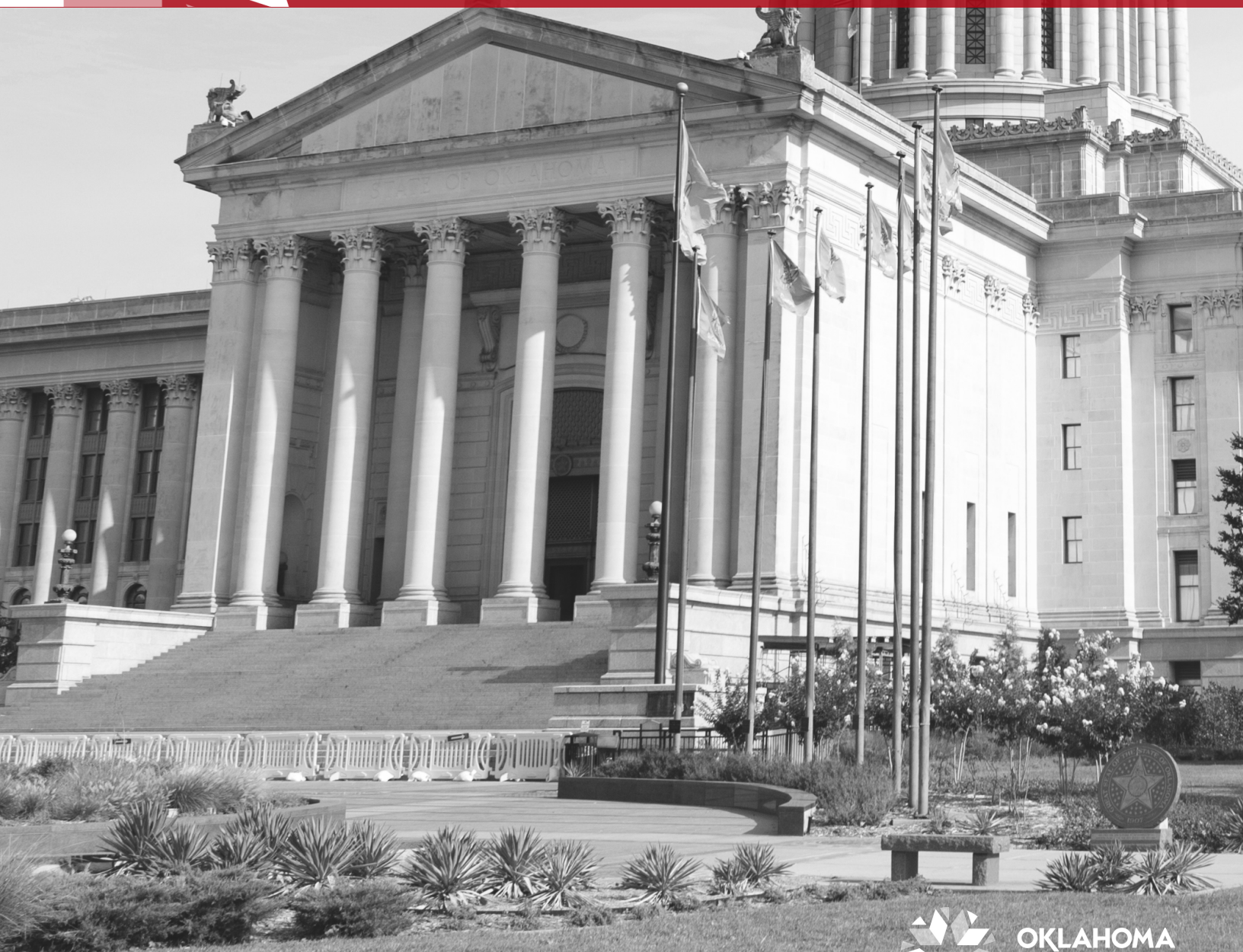




# 2023

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# LEGISLATION



OKLAHOMA  
Education





RYAN WALTERS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

Dear Educator:

The Oklahoma State Department of Education is pleased to provide you with the **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Banner Book** as a resource to help you stay informed of state education legislation.

This edition focuses on the bills that directly impact you. It uses a tighter framework by summarizing those laws which either directly impact education through changes in Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes or which otherwise directly impact responsibilities of the State Department of Education. This book is not intended to be perfectly comprehensive nor to serve as legal advice. It should, however, give you a general overview of this year's new legislation affecting public education in Oklahoma.

Several important bills passed this year. I am thrilled to report the passing of the historic and comprehensive school choice bill known as the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act, [H.B. 1934](#). This session also included the significant school funding increase of [H.B. 2901](#). This bill appropriates \$500 million in new annual funding into the State Aid Funding Formula, which will result in tremendous increases in state aid for many school districts. The bill also appropriates another \$125 million to be distributed as Redbud school grants, helping fund a substantial number of rural districts, among others. In addition, [S.B. 1119](#) provides pay raises between \$3,000 and \$6,000 per year for certified education personnel, while [S.B. 1121](#) provides six weeks of paid maternity leave for many public-school employees.

This session also saw an emphasis placed upon school security. Several bills were passed which aim to strengthen threat prevention in Oklahoma's public schools. Notably, [H.B. 2903](#) and [H.B. 2904](#) which appropriate up to \$50 million annually for school security.

This book also addresses the other new legislation that affects public education in Oklahoma. It is my hope that this book will help you to achieve all the more for our students. More importantly, I want to thank you all for your service to the children, parents, and people of Oklahoma. It is my honor to have been chosen for the privilege of working alongside you and to help build a greater system of educational opportunity for every child in this state.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ryan Walters".

Ryan Walters  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction





## SUBJECT INDEX

**NOTE: Bills in the Red Banner Book are listed in numerical order.  
Bills in this index may be listed under more than one subject.**

<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Higher Education</b>	S.B. 1120
S.B. 93	H.B. 2094	<b>State Government</b>
<b>Charter Schools</b>	H.B. 2663	H.B. 1842
H.B. 2180	S.B. 86	H.B. 2821
S.B. 516	S.B. 322	S.B. 67
<b>Curriculum</b>	S.B. 550	S.B. 404
H.B. 1397	<b>Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education</b>	<b>Workforce Development</b>
H.B. 2265	S.B. 299	H.B. 2858
<b>Elections</b>	<b>Schools</b>	S.B. 621
S.B. 110	H.B. 1041	S.B. 930
S.B. 375	H.B. 1445	
<b>Employment, Personnel, Compensation</b>	H.B. 1542	
H.B. 1441	H.B. 2314	
H.B. 2559	H.B. 2678	
H.B. 2679	S.B. 147	
S.B. 26	S.B. 429	
S.B. 467	S.B. 710	
S.B. 1119	<b>School Security</b>	
S.B. 1121	H.B. 1634	
<b>Funding, Budget</b>	H.B. 2903	
H.B. 1004X	H.B. 2904	
H.B. 1934	S.B. 100	
H.B. 2902	<b>State Department of Education</b>	
S.B. 18X	H.B. 1029	
S.B. 29X	H.B. 1443	
S.B. 36X	H.B. 2901	
	S.B. 1118	



# **H.B. 1004X**

RE: H.B. 1004X

SUBJECT: General appropriations

H.B. 1004X became effective July 1, 2023, unless otherwise noted. This bill appropriates funding for the upcoming fiscal year

- Section 1: Appropriates \$1,312,419,157.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 2: Appropriates \$1,036,701,366.00 to the State Board of Education from the Education Reform Revolving Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 3: Appropriates \$47,025,701.00 to the State Board of Education from the Common Education Technology Revolving Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 4: Appropriates \$27,787,500.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 5: Appropriates \$9,286,820.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 6: Appropriates \$4,771,015.00 to the State Board of Education from the Mineral Leasing Fund for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 7: Appropriates \$121,039,026.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the support of public-school activities.
- Section 8: Appropriates \$359,193,470.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the Certified Employee Health Benefit Allowance.
- Section 9: Appropriates \$194,211,359.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the Support Personnel Health Benefit Allowance.
- Section 10: Appropriates \$19,145,366.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for administrative and support functions of the State Department of Education.
- Section 11: Appropriates \$45,190,000.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.
- Section 12: Appropriates \$3,087,500.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for transfer to the School Consolidation Assistance Fund.
- Section 13: Appropriates \$1,031,869.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for transfer to the School Consolidation Assistance Fund.
- Section 14: Appropriates \$3,087,500.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for transfer to the Teachers' Retirement System Dedicated Revenue Revolving Fund.

- Section 15: Appropriates \$1,031,869.00 to the State Board of Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for transfer to the Teachers' Retirement System Dedicated Revenue Revolving Fund.
- Section 16: Appropriates \$87,700,000.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for transfer to the Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund.
- Section 17: Appropriates \$44,000,000.00 to the State Board of Education from the General Revenue Fund for the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund.
- Section 18: Authorizes the transfer of \$460,152,210.00 from the Teachers' Retirement System Dedicated Revenue Revolving Fund to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma.
- Section 19: Appropriates \$3,730,030.00 from the General Revenue Fund to the Oklahoma Arts Council.
- Section 20: Appropriates \$160,206,568.00 from the General Revenue Fund to the State Board of Career and Technology Education.
- Section 21: Appropriates \$3,396,250.00 from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund to the State Board of Career and Technology Education.
- Section 22: Appropriates \$1,135,056.00 from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund to the State Board of Career and Technology Education.
- Section 23: Appropriates \$1,367,209.00 from the General Revenue Fund to the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability.
- Section 24: Appropriates \$500,000.00 from the General Revenue Fund to the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability.
- Section 25: Appropriates \$2,879,004.00 to the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority for performing legal duties.
- Section 26: Appropriates \$855,120,188.00 to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for education, construction, renovations, or repairs, including \$3,149,897.00 for the Oklahoma Tuition Equalization Grant Trust Fund.
- Section 27: Appropriates \$17,846,797.00 to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for expenditures on concurrent enrollment.
- Section 28: Appropriates \$4,232,974.00 to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for the general operating budget of administrative offices.
- Section 29: Authorizes the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to expend \$47,025,701.00 from the Higher Education Capital Revolving Fund for education, general operating budgets, and construction, renovations, or repairs.
- Section 30: Authorizes the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to expend \$47,025,701.00 from the Oklahoma Student Aid Revolving Fund for education, general operating budgets, and construction, renovations, or repairs.
- Section 31: Appropriates \$24,391,250.00 to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for construction, renovations, or repairs.



- Section 32: Appropriates \$8,151,764.00 to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from the Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund for construction, renovations, or repairs.
- Section 33: Appropriates \$6,703,421.00 to the Commissioners of the Land Office.
- Section 34: Appropriates \$5,036,315.00 to the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.
- Section 35: Appropriates \$7,268,629.00 to the Health Care Workforce Training Commission.
- Section 36: Appropriates \$400,000.00 to the Health Care Workforce Training Commission.
- Section 37: Appropriates \$301,000.00 to the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools.
- Section 38: Appropriates \$7,446,373.00 to the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics.
- Section 39: Appropriates \$16,846,542.00 to the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology for performing legal duties, including \$7,136,034.00 for the Research Support Revolving Fund and \$2,105,817.00 for the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund.
- Section 40: Appropriates \$13,750,000.00 to the Oklahoma Accelerator Revolving Fund.

Helpful statutory reference: 62 O.S. § 34.89

## **H.B. 1029**

RE: H.B. 1029

SUBJECT: Student Homelessness

House Bill 1029 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill directs the State Department of Education to adopt a form for reporting on student homelessness.

- Section 1(A): Directs the State Department of Education to adopt a standard form to be used by all school districts to identify students who are homeless children and youth. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the form shall be completed annually at enrollment by the parent or guardian of a student or by the student if he or she is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Districts shall report the results to the Department, in a manner prescribed by the Department, no later than June 1 of each year.
- Section 1(B): Beginning July 1, 2025, the Department shall compile a report of the number of students identified as being homeless, by district and grade level.

Helpful statutory references: 10 O.S. § 600

New law at: 70 O.S. § 1210.210

## **H.B. 1041**

RE: H.B. 1041

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 1041 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill allows individual school districts to issue alternate diplomas.

- Section 1(E): A school district can issue an alternate diploma to a student with significant cognitive disabilities who participates in the Oklahoma Alternate Assessment Program (OAAP) by the school year in which the student turns twenty-two (22) years of age. The alternate diploma must be standards-based and aligned with requirements for a standard diploma.
- Section 1(F): An alternate diploma does not end Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) unless they reach the maximum age of FAPE. The IEP team decides on subsequent courses and services for students who receive an alternate diploma.
- Section 1(G): Students in the OAAP can still try to meet standard diploma requirements, and OAAP participation cannot determine a student's educational setting under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- Section 1(H): Students who receive an alternate diploma may count as having received a standard diploma when calculating and reporting the adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR).
- Section 1(I): To earn an alternate diploma, a student must complete specific sets of competencies or curriculum units in language arts, math, science, social studies, arts, computer education or world language, career readiness, and life skills.
  - Each category has several courses with specific competencies and requirements. Please contact the Special Education Services at the State Department of Education if you would like further information on the curriculum for an alternate diploma.
- Section 1(J): Some core curriculum courses can be substituted for corresponding courses required by the alternate diploma, and the State Board of Education may determine other substitutes.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 11-103.6

## **H.B. 1397**

RE: H.B. 1397

SUBJECT: Civil Rights Movement

House Bill 1397 becomes effective November 1, 2023. The new bill mandates the State Department of Education to develop and provide a curriculum about the civil rights movement to every public elementary and high school in Oklahoma.

- Section 1(A): Requires the State Department of Education to develop and make available to every public elementary and high school a curriculum on the civil rights movement from 1954 to 1968. The curriculum should cover the natural law and nonviolent resistance strategies of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and include a unit on other forms of discriminatory injustice such as genocide. This curriculum reaffirms the state's commitment to reject bigotry, promote equal protection under the law, and act against injustice wherever it may occur.
- Section 1(B): Requires the State Department of Education to provide resources and sample lesson plans to help teachers deliver instruction on the curriculum.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 11-103.6p



## H.B. 1441

RE: H.B. 1441

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 1441 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill modifies the frequency requirements for certain teacher professional development programs. The measure caps required local, state, and federal professional development for teachers at 150 hours total per five-year period.

- Section 1(B): Language is removed that requires teachers to participate in the local professional development program concerning the importance of digital teaching and learning standards in their first year, leaving timing to local control.
- Section 2(A): Language is removed that applies to the fiscal years 2011 and 2012.
- Section 2(D): Changes the interval in which a teacher must complete a program of professional training around training on recognition of child abuse and neglect; recognition of child sexual abuse; proper reporting of suspected abuse; and available resources. In place of an annual program, the program is required for all first-year teachers and then required every fifth academic year.
- Section 2(G): There is a cap of 150 hours placed on how much professional development school districts are allowed to require of classroom teachers during a five-year period. New language added to laws requires that teachers maintain written documentation of all their completed professional development.
- Section 3(A): Changes the interval in which a teacher must complete student mental health training program from every third academic year to every fifth academic year.
- Section 4(B): It tasks the local board of education with determining the frequency in which schools participate in school induction training.
- Section 5(C): The local board of education is tasked with determining the frequency seventh grade through twelfth-grade teachers participate in workplace safety training.
- Section 6(A): Changes annual school administrator and employee training on bullying to be required the first year of employment and then every fifth academic year after.
- Section 7(B): Changes biennial training on suicide awareness and prevention to be required the first year of employment and then every fifth academic year after.
- Section 8(A): Requires that alcohol and drug abuse training be included in the staff development point system. The training is now to be repeated every fifth year instead of every third year.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. §§ 6-192, 6-194, 6-194.3, 6-195, 11-103.6j, 24-100.4, 24-100.7, and 1210.229-5

## **H.B. 1443**

RE: H.B. 1443

SUBJECT: Student loans

House Bill 1443 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill requires the Attorney General to prepare a Student Borrower's Bill of Rights and prohibits certain practices from the student loan servicer.

- Section 1(B)(10): Fixes language to state that student loan servicers are prohibited from failing to inform student loan borrowers if their type of loan does not qualify for loan forgiveness.

Amendment to: 24 O.S. § 172

## **H.B. 1445**

RE: H.B. 1445

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 1445 becomes effective November 1, 2023. It requires school district to post information about issuing bonds prior to an election on its website.

- Section 1(A): School districts must post bond proposal information, including a description of each project funded by the bond and its estimated costs, on their website at least 30 days before a bond election.
- Section 1(B): After bond approval, school districts must continue to post the required bond information on their website for the duration of the bond and one year after project completion. They must also update the website within 30 days of any material changes in project scope or purpose.
- Section 1(C): This act does not apply to bond projects approved before the effective date of the act.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 15-110

## **H.B. 1542**

RE: H.B. 1542

SUBJECT: Torts

House Bill 1542 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill states that any restaurant, which includes public school cafeterias, are not to be held liable for good faith food donations.

- Section 1(A)(2): Defines a restaurant to include public school district cafeterias.
- Section 1(B): Exempts any restaurant that donates food in good faith and without compensation from liability for damages caused by the condition of the food, unless the damages resulted from intentional act, omission, gross negligence, or prior knowledge of the condition of the food.
- Section 1(C): Limits the scope of this bill to any civil actions filed after November 1, 2023.

New law at: 76 O.S. § 33.1



## **H.B. 1634**

RE: H.B. 1634

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 1634 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill expands what school officials are allowed to search when there is reasonable suspicion a student is in possession of anything illegal as outlined by the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act and the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act. This bill also allows for superintendents to designate an official to transport any items to a centralized location or to local law enforcement offices.

Existing law only permitted school officials to remove cold weather outerwear during a search.

- Section 1(B): Authorizes school officials to remove shoes, and hand and head coverings, except for religious head coverings, when conducting a warrantless search.
- Section 1(E): Authorizes the superintendent to designate school personnel to transport items to a centralized location within the school district or to local law enforcement offices. Mandates that the designated personnel shall carry school identification and a letter from the superintendent confirming their authority to transport items. Mandates that items should be transported in a locked container.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 24-102

## **H.B. 1842**

RE: H.B. 1842

SUBJECT: Children

House Bill 1842 became effective May 1, 2023. This bill amends the authority of the Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

- Section 1(A): Grants the Executive Director the responsibility for all established divisions and the power to appoint division directors within the Office of Juvenile Affairs
- Section 1(D)(15): Grants the Executive Director the power to establish an employee recruitment and referral incentive program

Amendment to: 10A O.S. § 2-7-202

## H.B. 1934

RE: H.B. 1934

SUBJECT: Students

House Bill 1934 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill is titled the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act. It provides an income tax credit for qualified expenses related to private and homeschool school tuition and fees. The maximum credit amount varies based on adjusted gross income (AGI), ranging from \$7,500 for households with an AGI of less than \$75,000 to \$5,000 for households with an AGI of more than \$250,000. The Act also includes a \$1,000 per student income tax credit for qualified homeschooling expenses. Students participating in the program can accept scholarships from the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program. There are annual caps on the total amount of private school tax credits claimed, starting at \$150 million in tax year 2024 and increasing to \$250 million for tax year 2026 and subsequent years. Additionally, there is a \$5 million annual cap on the homeschool expenses tax credit. The bill requires the Oklahoma Tax Commission to establish a process for installment payments of the private school tax credit. Various entities, including the Oklahoma Tax Commission, State Department of Education, and State Board of Education, are exempt from liability related to the tax credit. Taxpayers are allowed to intervene in lawsuits challenging the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Program, and the Tax Commission is required to publish the amount of credits claimed each year. The bill also directs the State Department of Education to create a user-friendly website for public ratings, reviews, and information sharing about education service providers.

- Section 1(A): The Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act defines key terms:
  - "Eligible student" includes residents of Oklahoma who can enroll in public schools within the state. This definition extends to students attending private schools accredited by the State Board of Education or another accrediting association, as well as those educated through alternative means as provided in Section 10-105 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
  - "Qualified expense" for claiming the tax credit consists of tuition and fees at a private school accredited by the State Board of Education or another accrediting association. It also includes specific expenditures like nonpublic online learning programs, academic tutoring services, textbooks, curriculum or instructional materials, and fees for nationally standardized assessments or preparatory courses.
  - "Taxpayer" encompasses biological or adoptive parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, legal guardians, custodians, or individuals with legal authority acting on behalf of an eligible student.
- Section 2(B): The Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Program is established to provide an income tax credit to taxpayers for qualified expenses supporting the education of eligible students in the state.

- Section 2(C): Starting from the tax year 2024, taxpayers can claim a credit against the tax imposed by Section 2355 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes for qualified expenses incurred on behalf of eligible students. a.
  - For eligible students in households with a total adjusted gross income not exceeding \$75,000, the maximum credit amount is \$7,500 or the amount of tuition and fees, whichever is less.
  - For eligible students in households with a total adjusted gross income between \$75,000 and \$150,000, the maximum credit amount is \$7,000 or the amount of tuition and fees, whichever is less.
  - For eligible students in households with a total adjusted gross income between \$150,000 and \$225,000, the maximum credit amount is \$6,500 or the amount of tuition and fees, whichever is less.
  - For eligible students in households with a total adjusted gross income between \$225,000 and \$250,000, the maximum credit amount is \$6,000 or the amount of tuition and fees, whichever is less.
  - For eligible students in households with a total adjusted gross income exceeding \$250,000, the maximum credit amount is \$5,000 or the amount of tuition and fees, whichever is less.
  - Additionally, a separate credit amount of up to \$1,000 is available for eligible students educated through other means such as homeschooling.
  - The taxpayer must submit receipts for qualified expenses and retain them as proof.
- Section 2(D): The total amount of credits authorized for each tax year is specified. The credits for eligible students attending private schools have different limits for each tax year, while the credits for eligible students educated through alternative means have a fixed amount.
  - The total dollar amount of private school tax credits in 2024 shall not exceed \$150 million
  - The total dollar amount of private school tax credits in 2025 shall not exceed \$200 million
  - The total dollar amount of private school tax credits in 2026 shall not exceed \$250 million
  - The total dollar amount of homeschooling related tax credits shall not exceed \$5 million
- Section 2(E): The Oklahoma Tax Commission is responsible for prescribing applications and deadlines for claiming the tax credits. Taxpayers claiming the credit for private school tuition and fees must submit an application, and payments are made in two installments based on the expected amount of tuition and fees. Each installment may at most equal half the funds for which the taxpayer is eligible. If the tuition and fees amount to less than the total tax credit for which the taxpayer is eligible, they will receive that amount in two equal installments. Affidavits from the private school are required for eligibility determination. The commission will use the affidavits to determine the amount of the installments.



- Section 2(F): Taxpayers claiming the credit must ensure that the expenses are qualified and not claimed by another person. The credit cannot be claimed if the eligible student enrolls as a full-time student in a public school of any sort: i.e., charter, virtual charter, or magnet schools. Taxpayers must comply with the Commission's rules and requirements for administering the tax credit program.
- Section 2(G): Eligible students can accept scholarships from the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program while participating in the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Program.
- Section 2(H): The Commission has the authority to conduct audits of qualified expense receipts and recapture credits if they were claimed for ineligible expenses or if the eligible student no longer attends a private school or has enrolled in a public school.
- Section 2(I): In the event of a revenue shortfall, the tax credits authorized by the act will be reduced proportionately to the reduction in the amount of money appropriated to the State Board of Education for public school financial support.
- Section 2(J): The Commission will make available on its website the amount of credits claimed each tax year for private school tuition and fees and alternative education expenses.
- Section 3(A): Requires the State Department of Education to notify parents, legal guardians, custodians, or other authorized individuals of eligible students with disabilities that participating in the program is equivalent to revoking consent under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The notice should also explain the rights these individuals have under IDEA and relevant state laws and regulations.
- Section 3(B): Mandates the implementation of a commercially viable, cost-effective, and user-friendly system for users to publicly rate, review, and share information about education service providers.
- Section 3(C): Instructs the Oklahoma Tax Commission to collaborate with the State Department of Education to establish a process for reviewing student enrollment information to ensure that an eligible student claimed by a taxpayer receiving a tax credit is not concurrently enrolled in a public school in the state.
- Section 3(D): Grants authority to the Commission to create rules for implementing the provisions of the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act, while the State Board of Education is empowered to promulgate rules for implementing this section.
- Section 4(A): States that no liability shall be imposed on the Oklahoma Tax Commission, State Department of Education, State Board of Education, the state, public school districts, public charter schools, public virtual charter schools, or magnet schools regarding the award or utilization of a tax credit under the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act.
- Section 4(B): Specifies that if any part of the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act is challenged in a state court for violating the Oklahoma Constitution or United States Constitution, taxpayers have the right to intervene in order to defend the constitutionality of the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Program. However, for judicial

administration purposes, a court may require taxpayers to file a joint brief without being obligated to join any brief filed on behalf of the named state defendant.

- Section 4(C): States that the provisions of the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act are not severable. If any provision of the act or its application to any person or circumstances is deemed invalid, such invalidity will also invalidate the other provisions or applications of the act.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 28-100, 28-102, and 28-103

## **H.B. 2094**

RE: H.B. 2094

SUBJECT: Higher education

House Bill 2094 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill would allow any member of a governing board of an Oklahoma higher education institution to audit a class provided at their institution free of charge.

- Section 1(A): Any member of a governing board of an Oklahoma higher education institution must be permitted by their institution to audit a class without cost as part of fulfilling their role as a board member.
- Section 1(B): Governing board members who audit a class under Section A are not eligible to receive academic credit for the class or classes they audit.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 24-160

## **H.B. 2180**

RE: H.B. 2180

SUBJECT: Virtual Charter Schools

House Bill 2180 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill establishes how attendance will be calculated for virtual charter schools' average daily attendance. It modifies how many days a student may go without completing an instructional activity before they are determined to be truant. This bill also allows an enrollment prohibition related to truancy to be waived by the State Department of Education.

- Section 1(D): Establishes that students attending a virtual charter school alternative education program will be considered fully present for the purpose of calculating the average daily attendance and average daily membership of the virtual charter school if they attend a full abbreviated school day. A full abbreviated school day is defined as 189 hours per quarter or 756 hours per school year.
- Section 1(F): Changes the number of days a student can go without completing an instructional activity without being considered truant. It was a fifteen school day period and is now a fifteen consecutive day period that includes weekends.
- Section 1(G): Creates a provision for a virtual charter school to request a waiver of the enrollment prohibition from the State Department of Education (After being declared truant twice in one school year the student will be withdrawn from the school and prohibited from re-enrolling in the same school year with that school). The office of accreditation is charged with reviewing the waiver and making the determination of whether the student will be allowed to continue attendance with that school. While this process is being carried out the student shall continue to attend school until the final determination is made.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 3-145.8

## **H.B. 2265**

RE: H.B. 2265

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 2265 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill allows high schools to offer a law enforcement elective and tasks the SDE with creation of its materials and curricula.

- Section 1(A): A school district is allowed to provide an elective course in law enforcement to eleventh- and twelfth-grade students.
- Section 1(B): The elective course in law enforcement must cover the basics of law enforcement training, the skills and entry requirements necessary to become a law enforcement professional, and the career opportunities available in law enforcement.
- Section 1(C): The State Board of Education can collaborate with the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training to develop instructional materials and curricula for school districts to use in the law enforcement elective course.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 11-103.15

## **H.B. 2314**

RE: H.B. 2314

SUBJECT: School Transportation

House Bill 2314 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill removes portions of law that prevent school district transportation routes from crossing their district boundaries.

- Section 1(A): Removes the language in law that prohibits charter school transportation from crossing over school district boundaries.
- Section 2(B): Removes the language in law that prohibits school district transportation from crossing over school district boundaries to serve open transfer students.
- Section 3(B): Removes language that regulates how districts would handle interdistrict transportation of students that attend a school outside of their geographic school district. It also inserts language that allows a board of education to provide transportation to students living outside of its geographic boundaries.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. §§ 3-141, 9-101, and 9-105

## **H.B. 2559**

RE: H.B. 2559

SUBJECT: Teacher Scholarships

House Bill 2559 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill expands the eligibility for the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program and renames the program to the Inspired to Teach Program.

- Section 1(A): Renames the program to Inspired to Teach Program and removes the requirement that a prospective teacher had to attend an Oklahoma high school. It expands eligibility to anyone who completed high school, completed high-school level instruction at home, or completed the GED test requirements. Additionally, it expands the college major requirements to include the pre-education major as well as the majors that were already part of an approved Oklahoma teacher preparation degree program

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 698.1

## **H.B. 2663**

RE: H.B. 2663

Subject: Higher education

Senate Bill 1121 became effective May 26, 2023. This bill removes the time limitations for certain family members and members of the Armed Forces to receive in-state tuition.

- Section 1(A)(4): Removes the requirement that a person, or a spouse or dependent child of a person, who was discharged or released from a period of more than 90 days of active uniformed service had to enroll in courses within 10 years of ending their service to receive in-state status. Removes the requirement that Oklahoma had to be the home of record for anyone in this subsection
- Section 2(C)(1)(a): Removes the requirement that for a person to receive in-state status regardless of residency or home of record, a person who had been discharged or released from a period of not fewer than 90 days of active-duty uniformed service had to enroll in courses within 5 years of the end of their service.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 3247



## **H.B. 2678**

RE: H.B. 2678

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 2678 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill limits who can be appointed to the State Board of Education.

- Section 1 (C): Adds a section that prohibits a person who is serving on a district board of education from being appointed to the Oklahoma State Board of Education.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 3-101

## **H.B. 2679**

RE: H.B. 2679

SUBJECT: Teacher Certification

House Bill 2679 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill extends a teacher certification pathway pilot program and alters the requirements that program providers must fulfill to participate in the pilot program.

- Section1(C)(4): Permits pilot programs that use an established partnership with an accredited higher education institution in place of a novice teacher support program.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 6-133

## **H.B. 2821**

RE: H.B. 2821

SUBJECT: State Government

House Bill 2821 extends the termination date of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey from July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2026.

- Section 1(A): Amends the termination date of the survey from July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2026.

Amendment to: 74 O.S. § 245

## **H.B. 2858**

RE: H.B. 2858

SUBJECT: Construction Industries Board

House Bill 2858 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill allows the Construction Industries Board to enter into contracts with any Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology accredited institute and outlines requirements for proposal applications for those contracts. It releases unexpended or outstanding Skilled Trade Education and Workforce Development Funds from contractual obligations if certain conditions are met.

- Section 3(A)(2): Requires that any vocational or technical school or system of education institution be accredited by the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education in order to directly enter into contracts with the Construction Industries Board.
- Section 3(B): Requires that any application for education or workforce development program proposals include costs, return on investment, value, and the viability of the proposal. Requires that the recipient of the funds will provide a written report to the Construction Industries Board providing an accounting of expenditures, describing an explanation of the funds used for the services provided and the success of outreach demonstrating a return on the investment including, but not limited to, an accounting of accomplishments.
- Section 3(E)(6): Releases all unexpended or outstanding Skilled Trade Education and Workforce Development Funds from any written agreement where work or services have not been previously approved by specific quote or cost estimate and have not been performed within 18 months of the date the agreement was signed. Exempts agreements with specific quotes, estimates, or invoices that previously have been approved for payment, performance has been initiated, and completed within 24 months of the signed agreement from having their funds released. Allows for released funds to be available for future agreements approved by the Construction Industries Board.

Amendment to: 59 O.S. § 1000.2

## **H.B. 2901**

RE: H.B. 2901

SUBJECT: Education

House Bill 2901 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill appropriates \$500,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the State Board of Education and appropriates \$125,000,000 for the Redbud Fund. It establishes fiscal year 2023-2024 as a baseline funding level and requires that any reductions from that level in future funding be taken proportionately from the newly created tax credits.

- Section 1: Appropriates \$500,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the State Board of Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.
- Section 2: Appropriates \$125,000,000 to the State Board of Education for deposit in the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund to be distributed as redbud school grants.
- Section 3(A): States that the funding level for public schools this year shall be the baseline level for future years.
- Section 3(B): If the amount of money appropriated to the State Board of Education for financial support of public schools and support of public-school activities and the amount to be distributed through redbud school grants is less than such amounts appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, than the tax credits authorized in the Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit Act shall be reduced proportionately.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 28-100A

## **H.B. 2902**

RE: H.B. 2902

SUBJECT: Schools

House Bill 2902 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill modifies the formula transportation factor, economically disadvantaged pupil rate, and the small school portion cut-off of the school funding formula

- Section 1(D)(2)(c): Increases the formula transportation factor from 1.39 to 2.0.
- Section 2(B)(2)(m): Increases the weight of the economically disadvantaged pupil category from .25 to .3.
- Section 2(B)(3)(a): Increases the ADM of schools included in the small school portion of funding from 529 to 750.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. §§ 18-200.2 and 18-201.1

## H.B. 2903

RE: H.B. 2903

SUBJECT: School security

House Bill 2903 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill creates a 3-year pilot program for the School Resource Officer Program. It establishes the School Security Revolving Fund.

- Section 1(A): Requires SDE to establish and maintain a three-year pilot program known as the School Resource Officer Program.
- Section 1(B): Requires school resource officers participating in the program to complete CLEET law enforcement active shooter emergency response training.
- Section 1(C): Defines a school resource officer as a law enforcement officer with sworn authority and training in school-based law enforcement and crisis response who is assigned by an employing law enforcement agency to work collaboratively with one or more schools using community-oriented policing concepts.
- Section 2(A): Establishes a School Security Revolving Fund.
- Section 2(B): Allows for funds in the School Security Revolving Fund to be used for the following purposes:
  - Establishing and maintaining a School Resource Officer Program.
  - Providing physical security enhancements for schools including, but not limited to, school resource officers, cameras, gates, lighting, locks, doors, windows, security geofencing, and ballistic storm shelters.
- Section 2(C): Prohibits expenditures from the fund exceeding \$50,000,000 in a single fiscal year. Requires funds to be divided equally among every public school district in the state.

New law at: 70 O.S. §§ 5-148.1 and 5-148.2

## **H.B. 2904**

RE: H.B. 2904

SUBJECT: School security

House Bill 2904 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill appropriates \$150 million into the School Security Revolving Fund which was created by another piece of legislation this session, H.B. 2903.

- Section 1: Appropriates \$150 million or as much as may be necessary to cover costs associated with implementing H.B. 2903 for school security. It also directs the funds into the School Security Revolving Fund from the General Revenue Fund.

New law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes.



## **S.B. 18X**

RE: S.B. 18X

SUBJECT: Medical marijuana

Senate Bill 18X became effective July 1, 2023. This bill creates the Medical Marijuana Tax fund and places all revenues from the medical marijuana sales tax of 7% into this fund. The funds will be appropriated by the legislature for common education including but not limited to redbud grants.

- Section 3: Creates the Medical Marijuana Tax Fund and directs all money received by the Medical Marijuana Authority via the 7% sales tax on medical marijuana in Oklahoma. The legislature will determine how the funds will be appropriated for substance abuse programs and common education which includes funding the redbud school grants.

Amendment to: 63 O.S. §§ 426, and 427.5

New law at: 63 O.S. § 427.5a

## **S.B. 26**

RE: S.B. 26

SUBJECT: Restroom or Changing Area Use

Senate Bill 26 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill allows coaches to enter their team's locker room of the opposite sex under certain conditions.

- Section D(3)(a): Requires all students present to be fully clothed
- Section D(3)(b): Requires the coach shall be accompanied by at least one additional adult at all times
- Section D(3)(c): Requires that if the coach is of the opposite sex of the students present, the coach shall be accompanied by at least one adult of the same sex as the students present

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 1-125

## **S.B. 29X**

RE: S.B. 29X

SUBJECT: Education

Senate Bill 29X became effective July 1, 2023. This bill reduces the required match to a one and one-half basis from two-to-one for applicants for an early childhood education pilot program that serves at-risk students.

- Section 1: Changes the amount of money donors to the program will be required to match every dollar of state funds. It was changed from a 2-1 ratio to a 1 ½ -1 ratio.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 10-105.4

## **S.B. 36X**

RE: S.B. 36X

SUBJECT: Education

Senate Bill 36X became effective July 1, 2023. This bill sets budgetary expenditure limits for the State Board of Education.

- Section 1(1): Directs \$2,437,991,559 of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 to be reserved for the financial support of public schools.
- Section 1(2): Directs \$ 719,633,855. of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 to be appropriated as follows:
  - Certified Employee Health Benefit Allowance - \$359,193,470
  - Support Employee Health Benefit Allowance - \$194,211,359
  - Teachers' Retirement Credit - \$35,000,000
  - Purchase of Textbooks and Instructional Materials - \$45,190,000
  - Alternative and High Challenge Education - \$14,000,000
  - Education Leadership Oklahoma - \$3,770,000
  - Advanced Placement Incentives - \$1,500,000
  - Reading Sufficiency Act - \$13,000,000
  - Required Assessments - \$9,205,685
  - Teach for America - \$2,000,000
  - Street School - \$180,000
  - Ag in the Classroom - \$38,000
  - Imagine Math - \$1,000,000
  - Imagine Reading - \$1,000,000
  - Oklahoma Arts Institute - \$320,000
  - Early Intervention - \$16,225,341
  - Secure Schools Program - \$2,350,000
  - Great Expectations - \$500,000
  - Child ID - \$500,000
  - Academic Standards Implementation - \$300,000
  - Teacher and Leader Effectiveness - \$250,000
  - Student Information Security - \$500,000
  - ACT Work Keys - \$250,000
  - Early Childhood Initiative - \$12,000,000
  - School Lunch Matching - \$3,500,000
  - Oklahoma School Security Initiative - \$1,400,000
  - Metrics Software - \$2,000,000
  - Inhalers for all schools - \$250,000
- Section 1(3): Directs \$19,145,366.00 of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 to be reserved for Administrative and Support Function of the State Department of Education.

- Section 2: Sets the total expenditure limit for the State Board of Education at \$5,791,728,722 to be budgeted as follows. Requires outcome-based performance measures for each:
  - Payroll, Salaries or Wages - \$25,775,827
  - Professional and Personal Services Contracts \$31,840,048
  - Other Operating Funds \$3,908,491,664
  - Expenditure of Federal Funds \$1,825,621,183
- Section 3: Directs \$4,119,369 of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 be transferred to the School Consolidation Assistance Fund.
- Section 4: Directs \$4,119,369 of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 be transferred to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma (OTRS).
- Section 5: Directs \$35,000,000 of the funds appropriated in H.B. 1004 for the Teachers' Retirement Credit be transferred to the OTRS.
- Section 6: If funds are insufficient to fully fund the Teachers' Retirement Credit, allows SDE to reduce in equal proportions funds for Education Leadership Oklahoma, Secure Schools Program, Teach for America, Teacher/Leader Effectiveness, Child ID, Advanced Teacher Training, Reading Sufficiency Act, Alternative and High Challenge Education, Required Assessments, Ag in the Classroom, Imagine Math, Imagine Reading, ACT Work Keys, and Oklahoma Arts Institute.
- Section 7: Directs \$3,770,000 of the funds appropriated for Education Leadership Oklahoma to be allocated as follows:
  - \$470,000 to the Oklahoma National Board Certification Revolving Fund; and
  - \$3,300,000 to the Oklahoma School Psychologist, Speech-Language Pathologist, and Audiologist National Certification Revolving Fund.
- Section 8: Directs \$1,500,000 for Advanced Placement Teacher Training and Test Fee Assistance for students in financial need, to expand professional development, and for grants for districts to start new AP programs.
- Section 9: Directs \$13,000,000 to be expended according to state law for the Reading Sufficiency Act.
- Section 10: Directs \$250,000 for Teacher and Leader Effectiveness programs to improve the effectiveness of teachers and leaders in public schools.
- Section 11: Directs \$9,205,685 for administering the statewide student assessment system for grades 3-12.
- Section 12: Directs \$14,000,000 to Alternative and High Challenge Education for the purpose of operating the statewide system of alternative education programs and for encouraging school districts to participate in innovative alternative education programs.
- Section 13: Directs \$16,225,341 to Early Intervention SoonerStart to be expended for direct services to eligible infants, toddlers, and their families.
- Section 14: Directs \$12,000,000 to the Early Childhood Initiative for the purpose of funding the early childhood program.
- Section 15: Directs \$300,000 to Academic Standards Implementation for the purpose of funding implementation of academic standards.

- Section 16: Directs \$2,000,000 to Metrics Software for the purpose of funding a statistical software suite for data management, advanced analytics, multivariate analysis, and predictive analytics.
- Section 17: Directs \$1,400,000 to the Oklahoma School Security Initiative for awarding grants to improve school security.
- Section 18: Directs \$250,000 to provide inhalers to schools in case of emergency.
- Section 19: Requires state aid funds to be reduced or withheld by the State Board of Education in an amount necessary to ensure compliance with the law.
- Section 20: Requires the State Department of Education to seek approval from the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives before purposefully not applying for any federal grant funding.
- Section 21: Authorizes the State Board of Education to request a transfer of appropriated funds to the appropriate dispensing fund.
- Section 22: Authorizes the State Superintendent to request through the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) the early transfer by the Oklahoma Tax Commission of tax collections to the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund for the purpose of early allocation to alleviate cash-flow problems.
- Section 23: Directs a proportionate reduction in funds for each school district that qualifies, excluding Financial Support of Public Schools, should the funds appropriated not be sufficient to fully fund the provisions of the bill.
- Section 24(A): Authorizes the State Superintendent to request through OMES that receipt and expenditure of unanticipated federal funds awarded after July 1, 2023, be exempt from the budget limitations. Requires the request be made in writing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committee chairs. Directs the House and Senate to notify OMES if the request does not comply with legislative intent within 12 days of receipt.
- Section 24(B): Directs OMES to approve the exemption request unless the House and Senate object as described in subsection A of this section. Requires OMES to give written notice of approval or disapproval to the agency, the Governor and the Appropriations Committee chairs of the House and Senate within 18 days of receipt.
- Section 25: Authorizes appropriations made in H.B. 1004, but not including appropriations made for capital outlay purposes, to be budgeted for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Helpful statutory reference: 70 O.S. § 6-101.16, 6-204.2, 6-206.1, 10-105.4, 11-103.6 13-125, 17-108.2, 26-103, 1210.508, 1210.568, and 1210.703

## **S.B. 67**

RE: S.B. 67

SUBJECT: Fleet reporting requirements

Senate Bill 67 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill makes all state agencies subject to Fleet Management Division reporting requirements. It allows for a few exemptions that include the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Transportation, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Commissioners of the Land Office, and The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. The bill also requires the Fleet Management Division to present a report concerning the financial condition of the Division and an inventory of all motor vehicles to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives in addition to the report they must already present to the Governor by law.

- Section 1: Requires all agencies to comply with the Fleet Management Division reporting requirements.
- Section 2: Requires the Division to present a report concerning the financial condition of the Division and an inventory of all motor vehicles to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Amendment to: 74 O.S. § 78

## **S.B. 86**

RE: S.B. 86

SUBJECT: Higher education

Senate Bill 86 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill authorizes the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges, AKA the Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO), to issue obligations and indebtedness to institutions in RUSO.

- Section 1(p): Allows the RUSO to Issue, on behalf of the institutions supervised and managed by RUSO, special and limited obligations for purposes of such capital projects as RUSO may deem proper.
- Section 3(1)(d): Designates the Board of Regents as an authorized issuer.
- Section 4(D): Authorizes the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges to issue indebtedness for capital projects to benefit RUSO institutions. They are authorized to pledge any lawfully available source of revenue other than that appropriated by the Legislature from tax receipts.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. §§ 3510, 3980.2, 3980.3, and 3980.4



## **S.B. 93**

RE: S.B. 93

SUBJECT: Graduation Requirements

Senate Bill 93 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill mandates the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid in order to graduate high school, subject to certain opt-outs.

- Section 1(A): Requires every student must complete and submit the FAFSA in order to graduate from a public high school beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.
- Section 1(B): Allows a student to be exempt if their parents or legal guardians submit a signed form opting them out of the requirement, if a student aged 18 or older submits a signed form opting them out of the requirement, or if a school counselor authorizes a student to opt out of the requirement.
- Section 1(C): Requires the State Department of Education to develop and publish materials for students, parents, and legal guardians explaining the requirements, the benefits, and the opt-out provisions. Requires SDE develop and publish an opt-out form to be used by schools.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 1210.508-6

## **S.B. 100**

RE: S.B. 100

SUBJECT: School Security

Senate Bill 100 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill requires every school district to undergo a risk and vulnerability assessment by July 1, 2026, and every five years thereafter.

- Section 1(A)(13): Allows Risk and Vulnerability assessments of school districts including recommendations and preparations for assessments to be kept confidential.
- Section 2(B): Requires that every school district who has not completed a risk and vulnerability assessment within the past two years must complete one by July 1, 2026.
- Section 2(C): Requires that every school district complete a risk and vulnerability assessment every five years.
- Section 3(D): Establishes the following eligibility requirements for Oklahoma School Security Grant Program Award:
  - Requires that an applicant completes a risk and vulnerability assessment conducted by the Oklahoma School Security Institute or a nationally qualified risk and vulnerability assessor.
  - Requires that any institute agrees to expend grant funds on items recommended by the risk and vulnerability assessment and/or to provide de-escalation and behavioral threat assessment and management training to employees.
- Section 3(E): Requires that the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management add to its annual report a list of the recipients of Oklahoma School Security Grant Program awards and information on how grant funds were used during the previous year.

Amendment to: 51 O.S. § 24A.28; 74 O.S. § 51.2b

New law at: 70 O.S. § 5-148.1

## **S.B. 110**

RE: S.B. 110

SUBJECT: Career and Technology Education

Senate Bill 110 becomes effective July 1, 2024. This bill requires the State Board of Career and Technology Education to divide CareerTech districts with more than 225,000 electors into board zones and allows each CareerTech District Board of Education to pass a resolution to continue electing Board members at large or by district zone.

- Section 1(E): In technology center school districts having a population more than 225,000 electors, the territory shall be divided into board zones by the State CTE Board. The board of education of the technology center school district shall consist of one member from each zone. Beginning July 1, 2024, they shall have the option upon approval of a board resolution, of requiring that the electors elect someone from their zone to represent them, rather than electing all members at large. If during the term, a member ceases to be a resident of the district zone for which the person was elected, the office shall become vacant.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 14-108

## **S.B. 147**

RE: S.B. 147

SUBJECT: Glucagon

Senate Bill 147 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill directs medical management plans to indicate whether consent has been given for administration of glucagon. Additionally, it allows a school district board of education to stock glucagon to treat a student with diabetes.

- Section 1(B): Requires that the diabetes medical management shall indicate whether the parent or legal guardian of the student has given written consent for a qualified official to administer glucagon.
- Section 2(A): Adds that a school district board of education may elect to stock glucagon to treat a student with diabetes who experiences a hypoglycemic emergency or if the student's prescribed glucagon is not available on site or has expired.
- Section 2(C): Allows a licensed physician with prescriptive authority to write a prescription for glucagon in the name of the district.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 1210.196.3

New law: 70 O.S. § 1210.196.9

## **S.B. 299**

RE: S.B. 299

SUBJECT: Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education

Senate Bill 299 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill extends the sunset of this bill from July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2026, and changes the process for appointing members and filling vacant seats.

- Section 1(A): Changes the sunset date of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education from July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2026.
- Section 1(C)(1): Changes the appointing entity of the 5 members representing tribes from the Governor to the Speaker of the House and clarifies that elected executive leaders of the tribes submit the list of nominations.
- Section 1(C)(2): Changes the appointing entity of the 4 members representing the tribal education departments of an Indian tribe from the Governor to the President Pro Tempore and clarifies that elected executive leaders submit the list of nominations.
- Section 1(D): States that appointments to the Council shall be made by September 1, 2023. Clarifies that a vacancy may be filled by the original appointing authority from a list of nominations of elected executive leaders of Indian tribes and states that appointments to fill a vacancy shall be made within three months following the vacancy.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 3-173

## **S.B. 322**

RE: S.B. 322

SUBJECT: Digital or online library database resources

Senate Bill 322 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill clarifies that prohibitions of obscene materials from university library resources and databases do not apply when the primary purpose of the resource is education or research

- Section 1(G): Clarifies that the prohibition on obscene materials in university library resources and databases does not apply when the primary purpose of the resources is education or research.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 11-202

## **S.B. 375**

RE: S.B. 375

SUBJECT: Elections

Senate Bill 375 became effective when signed by the Governor June 6, 2023. This bill specifies that a primary election will be held on the third Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year and Declarations of Candidacy must be filed by the first Wednesday of April.

- Section 1: Changes the date for primary elections from the last Tuesday in June to the third Tuesday of June of each even-numbered year.
- Section 3: Changes the date by when Declarations of Candidacy must be filed with the local election board secretary from the second Wednesday of April to the first Wednesday of April of any even numbered year.

Amendment to: 26 O.S. §§ 1-102, 3-101, and 5-110

## **S.B. 404**

RE: S.B. 404

SUBJECT: Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act

Senate Bill 404 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill deems it to be a substantial burden to exclude any person or entity from participation in or receipt of governmental funds, benefits, programs, or exemptions based solely on the religious character or affiliation of the person or entity.

- Section 1: Adds language that places burden on the state to provide reasoning for prohibiting a person or entity from participating in or reception of government funds, benefits, programs, or exemptions based solely on the religious character or affiliation of the person or entity.
- Section 2: Removes language that provides exemptions to this new language.

Amendment to: 51 O.S. § 253 and 255



## **S.B. 429**

RE: S.B. 429

SUBJECT: Graduation ceremonies

Senate Bill 429 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill allows students to wear tribal regalia during graduation ceremonies.

- Section 1(A)(1): Allows students enrolled in a public school district, public charter school, or a technology center to wear tribal regalia during graduation ceremonies.
- Section 1(B): Allows students enrolled in an institution within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education to wear tribal regalia.
- Section 1(C): Allows any of the above entities to specify characteristics of any regalia if it will endanger the safety of the student or others or interfere with graduation ceremonies.
- Section 1(D): Defines tribal regalia as “traditional garments, jewelry, other adornments such as an eagle feather, an eagle plume, a beaded cap, a stole, or similar objects of cultural and religious significance worn by members of a federally recognized Indian tribe or the tribe of another country.”

New law at: 70 O.S. § 24-160

RE: S.B. 467

Subject: Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Act

Senate Bill 467 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill authorizes Oklahoma to enter the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact. It provides requirements for member states regarding licensing and background checks. It also authorizes the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission and outlines its powers, duties, and responsibilities.

- Section 1(C): Outlines requirements regarding licensing for member states including:
  - Licensure only applies to the initial grant of license or certificate, and no subsequent or ongoing compliance requirements.
  - Each member state shall define, compile, and update a list of eligible licenses and career and technical educational licenses that the receiving state would consider for equivalency as well as those licenses that a receiving state is willing to grant to teachers from other member states and submit that list to the Commission.
  - The receiving state has sole discretion over the eligibility of the applicant for licensure of teachers.
  - For active military members and eligible military spouses who hold an unencumbered license or certification, the receiving state shall grant an equivalent license or certificate, except where the receiving state does not have an equivalent license or certification.
  - Allows for a state to reject a teacher holding an unencumbered career and technical education license if they do not have a bachelor's degree and the receiving state requires a bachelor's degree. Also allows receiving states to require career and technical education teachers to meet state industry recognized requirements if required by law.
- Section 1 (D)(1): Asserts that the ITMC is not to limit or inhibit the existing authority of a state's licensing authority to grant licenses or to in any way invalidate or alter any existing arrangements between states.
- Section 1(D)(2): Allows the state granting a license or certification to require the teacher to complete state specific requirements as a condition of licensure or certification renewal or advancement.
- Section 1(D)(3): Allows a receiving state to require additional information from teachers receiving a licensure or certification for the purposes of determining compensation.
- Section 1(D)(4): Protects member states' power to control and maintain ownership of their own teacher information
- Section 1(D)(5): Clarifies that the ITMC does not trump any existing agreements between member states in the following categories:
  - Awarding of any/all teacher credentials or certifications.
  - Exchange of information on teachers with disciplinary action.
  - Participate in any agreement or cooperative arrangement with a non-member state.

- Section 1(E)(2): A teacher eligible to receive certification shall undergo a criminal background check and provide the receiving state with any other relevant information required for licensure or certification.
- Section 1(F)(1) Nothing in the ITMC shall infringe the authority of a member state to investigate or impose disciplinary measures on a teacher.
- Section 1(F)(2): Authorizes member states to receive and provide files and information regarding any investigation or discipline of teachers in any member state at the same level of security and confidentiality it holds its own files. Requires the disclosing state to communicate its intention and purpose for disclosure to the state which originally provided the information prior to disclosing any such information.
- Section 2(A): Establishes the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission.
- Section 2(B): Grants each state one delegate, who shall be the primary administrative officer of the state licensing authority. Allows for any commissioner to be removed from office following the laws of the state from which the commissioner is appointed. Requires any vacancy shall be filled within 90 days. Each commissioner is entitled to one vote. Requires the commission to meet annually. Requires the commission shall establish a term of office for commissioner.
- Section 2(C): Outlines the powers and duties of the Commission
  - Establish a code of ethics
  - Establish the fiscal year
  - Establish bylaws
  - Maintain financial records
  - Meet and take actions relevant to provisions of the ITMC, bylaws, and rules
  - Promulgate rules to implement and administer the ITMC
  - Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions relevant to the commission
  - Purchase and maintain insurance bonds
  - Borrow, accept, or contract for personnel
  - Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the ITMC, and establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications for personnel, and other related personnel matters
  - Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations, or hold, improve, or use any real, personal or mixed property, and avoid impropriety
  - Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any real, personal, or mixed property
  - Establish a budget and make expenditures
  - Borrow money
  - Appoint committees
  - Cooperate with law enforcement.
  - Establish and elect an executive committee
  - Establish and develop a charter for an executive information governance committee to advise on facilitating informational exchange
  - Perform other functions as necessary

- Determine if a state's adopted language is significantly different from the model language which would prohibit them from being members of the committee
- Section 2(D): Establishes the executive committee of the ITMC and establishes rules and powers of the executive committee.
- Section 2(D)(1): Establishes the composition of the executive committee, which consists of
  - The commission chair, vice chair, and treasurer
  - 5 members who are elected by the Commission from:
    - 4 voting members representing geographic regions
    - 1 At-large Member
- Section 2(D)(2): Allows the committee to add or remove members of the executive committee as rules provide.
- Section 2(D)(3): Requires the executive committee to meet at least once annually.
- Section 2(D)(4): Outlines the following executive committee duties and responsibilities.
  - Recommend to the entire Commission changes to the rules, bylaws, ITMC legislation, and any fees to be paid
  - Ensure Commission administration services are provided
  - Prepare and recommend the budget
  - Maintain financial records
  - Monitor compliance of member states
  - Perform other duties as provided
- Section 2(D)(5): Requires all Commission meetings to be open to the public unless it deals with the following:
  - Member state non-compliance
  - Matters related to specific employees
  - Current, threatened, or anticipated litigation
  - Contract negotiation
  - Criminal accusation or formal censure
  - Trade, commercial, or financial disclosure
  - Disclosure which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
  - Disclosure of investigate records compiled for law enforcement purposes
  - Disclosure of information related to any investigative reports specifically emanating from committees charged with determining compliance for the ITMC on behalf of the commission
  - Matters previously exempted from disclosure by federal or state statute
  - Any other matters as determined by Commission bylaws and rules
- Section 2(D)(6): Requires that the Commission's legal counsel or designee certify that the meeting may be closed and requires counsel to reference each relevant exempting provision, if applicable.
- Section 2(D)(7): Requires the Commission to keep full and accurate minutes of meetings.
- Section 2(E)(1): Requires Commission to pay or provide for payment of reasonable expenses.
- Section 2(E)(2): Allows the Commission to accept all appropriate donations and grants so long as impropriety or conflict of interest is avoided.

- Section 2(E)(3): Allows the Commission to levy and collect an annual assessment s to cover the cost of operations.
- Section 2(E)(4): Prohibits the Commission from incurring obligations without previously securing the funds adequate to meet the same.
- Section 2(E)(5): Requires the Commission to keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements.
- Section 2(F)(1): All members, officers, executive directors, employees, and representatives of the Commission are immune from any suit or liability arising from their engagement within the scope of the Commission if the suit did not arise because of legal misconduct of the individual.
- Section 2(F)(2): The Commission shall defend any individuals who are the target of civil action because of performing within the scope of the Commission and should indemnify and hold harmless any individual who has a settlement or judgement against them because of their performance within the scope of the Commission.
- Section 2(F)(3): Requires the commission to indemnify and hold harmless any personnel of the commission for any settlement or judgement obtained against the person arising from performing within the scope of their duties.
- Section 2(G)(1): Allows the Commission to exercise its rulemaking powers and allows rules and amendments to become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.
- Section 2(G)(2): Requires the Commission to create reasonable rules to achieve the intent and purpose of the ITMC.
- Section 2(G)(3): If most legislatures of member states to reject a rule within 4 years of adoption of the rule, then the rule shall be considered invalid and have no force.
- Section 2(G)(4): Requires Rules or amendments to be adopted or ratified at a regular or special meeting.
- Section 2(G)(5): Allows the Commission to consider and adopt an emergency rule within 48 hours' notice so long as the usual rule-making procedures shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible and not longer than 90 days after the effective date of the rule. An emergency constitutes the following:
  - Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare
  - Prevent loss of Commission or member state funds
  - Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule
  - Protect public health and safety
- Section 2(H)(1): Requires the Commission to provide for facilitating the exchange of information to administer and implement the ITMC.
- Section 2(I)(1): Requires executive and judicial branches of each member state to enforce the ITMC.
- Section 2(I)(2): Requires that judicial proceedings by or against the Commission be brought only in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. Allows the commission to waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

- Section 2(I)(3): Requires courts and administrative agencies to take judicial notice of the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact and the Commission's rules in a judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding in a member state pertaining to the compact.
- Section 2(I)(4): Entitles the Commission to receive service of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the ITMC.
- Section 2(J)(1): Outlines the process for how the Commission should deal with a member state that has defaulted in its performance of obligations or responsibilities. Requires the Commission to do the following:
  - Provide written notice to the defaulting state, the proposed means of curing the default, and any Commission action
  - Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default
- Section 2(J)(2): Allows a state to be terminated from the IMTC if they fail to cure the default.
- Section 2(J)(3): Requires that all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted before termination of membership. Requires that notice of intent to suspend or terminate be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, the state licensing authority, and each member state.
- Section 2(J)(4): Requires that a terminated state still be responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through effective termination date, as well as all obligations that extend beyond effective termination date.
- Section 2(J)(5): Prohibits the Commission from bearing any costs related to a state found to be in default or otherwise terminated
- Section 2(J)(6): Allows the defaulting state to appeal the action to the relevant U.S. District Court.
- Section 2(J)(7): Allows the Commission to attempt to resolve disputes related to the ITMC as they arise between member states and between member states and non-member states. Requires the Commission to promulgate a rule providing for binding and anon-binding alternative dispute resolution.
- Section 2(J)(8): Requires the Commission to enforce the provisions and rules of the ITMC, Allows the Commission to initiate legal action in a U.S. District court with a majority vote against a member state in default. Allows the relief sought to include both injunctive relief and damages. Awards all costs of litigation including reasonable attorney fees to the prevailing party in the event of judicial enforcement. Prohibits the remedies from being exclusive of remedies of the Commission. Allows the Commission to pursue other available remedies.
- Section 2(K): The ITMC comes into effect on the date on which the compact is enacted into law in the tenth member state.
- Section 2(K)(1): Requires that the Commission convenes on or after the effective date of the compact and reviews the enactment of the compact by each member state to determine if the statute enacted by each state is materially different from the model statute.
- Section 2(K)(2): Subjects member states to the default process if their statute enactment is found materially different from the model compact statute.

- Section 2(K)(3): Requires that member states be subject to the process set forth in Section 2(C)(20) of the law to determine if the enacted statute is materially different from the model statute.
- Section 2(K)(4): Requires that the Commission and compact continue to exist and remain in effect if the number of member states is fewer than 10 as a result of withdrawals or terminations.
- Section 2(K)(5): Requires that any state that joins the compact after the initial adoption of rules and bylaws be subject to the rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which the compact becomes law in the new state.
- Section 2(K)(6): Allows any member state to withdraw from the ITMC through enacting a statute repealing the compact. Prohibits the withdrawal from taking effect until 6 months following the enactment of the repeal. Prohibits withdrawal from affecting the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's licensing authority to comply with investigative and adverse action reporting requirements prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- Section 2(K)(7): Allows the ITMC to be amended by member states, however, the amendment shall not be effective and binding until it is enacted into law by all member states.
- Section 2(L): Requires the ITMC to be liberally construed to serve its purposes. Provides for severability in the case of contradiction with existing state or federal statute or constitution. Requires that the compact remain in full force and effect in remaining member states if a provision is severed in one of the member states.

New law at: 70 O.S. §§ 6-190.3, and 6-190.4

RE: S.B. 516

SUBJECT: Charter schools

Sections 1, 2, 3, and 21 of Senate Bill 516 shall become effective September 1, 2023. The remaining sections become effective July 1, 2024. This bill abolishes the Virtual Charter School Board and establishes the Statewide Charter School Board. Additionally, it amends various aspects of the chartering and sponsoring process.

In general, all instances where charter schools are mentioned, language is amended to include virtual charter schools. In all instances where a list of sponsors is mentioned, the language is amended to include private institutions of higher education. Finally, all mentions of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board are amended to be the Statewide Charter School Board unless otherwise mentioned. For brevity, each individual instance of this occurring is not listed within the following pages.

- Section 1(A): Establishes the Statewide Charter School Board as of July 1, 2024, and grants it sole authority to sponsor statewide virtual charter schools as well as the ability to sponsor brick-and-mortar charter schools in the state. Establishes a voting body of nine members that consists of:
  - Three members appointed by the Governor
  - Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
  - Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
  - The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee
  - The State Auditor and Inspector or his or her designee
- Section 1(B): Requires initial appointments to be made by October 31, 2023. States that one appointment of the President Pro Tempore and House Speaker shall serve for year and one appointment shall serve for two years. The Governor shall appoint one member for 1 year and two members for two years. The appointees shall serve until their successors are appointed for a term of three years. Appointments shall take effect on July 31 of the year the appointment is made. Requires that by December 30, the board shall elect a chair and vice chair.
- Section 1(C): Establishes the conditions on which a member may be removed from the board including:
  - Being found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or any offense involving moral turpitude
  - Being found guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in relation to Board duties
  - Being found mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction
  - Failing to attend three successive meetings without just cause
- Section 1(D): Establishes that vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority.



- Section 1(E): Establishes that no member of the Senate or House of Representatives may be appointed to the board while serving as a member of the legislature or for two full years following the expiration of their term.
- Section 1(F): Prohibits Board members from receiving compensation but allows for reimbursement of travel expenses.
- Section 1(G): Grants the chair the power to call a meeting. Requires the first meeting to be held no later than 60 days after the effective date of this act.
- Section 1(H): Defines a quorum as 5 members of the board and requires an affirmative vote of at least five members to take any final action.
- Section 1(I): Beginning July 1, 2024, requires all statewide virtual charter schools to be sponsored by the Statewide Charter School Board, as well as abolishes the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board and states that any contractual rights, responsibilities, and obligations of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board shall be assumed by the Statewide Charter School Board.
  - Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) shall coordinate the transfer of funds, allotments, purchase orders, and outstanding financial obligations and encumbrances relating to virtual charter schools
  - The Statewide Charter School Board shall allow a virtual school to apply for renewal in accordance with the Section 3-137 of Title 70.
  - Effective July 1, 2024, all administrative rules promulgated by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board shall be enforceable by the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 1(J): Beginning July 1, 2024, the Statewide Charter School Board shall assume any contractual rights and responsibilities and settlement agreements incurred by the State Board of Education in a charter school contract prior to July 1, 2024. This includes all property, equipment, supplies, records, assets, funds, current and future liabilities, encumbrances, obligations, and indebtedness associated with a charter school sponsorship contract. The Statewide Charter School Board will be the sponsor of any charter schools that were sponsored by the State Board of Education prior to July 1, 2024, until the end of their contracts. Any charter school previously sponsored by the State Board of Education shall be allowed to apply of a renewal of contract with the normal renewal procedures.
- Section 1(K): Beginning July 1, 2024, a charter school with a sponsorship contract with a school district, an accredited comprehensive or regional institution that is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, a community college, or a federally recognized Indian tribe, may at the end of the current contract term apply for contract renewal with the Statewide Charter School Board for sponsorship.
- Section 2(A): Establishes the duties of the Statewide Charter School Board.
  - Provide supervision, services and oversight of the statewide virtual charter schools and charter schools in which they sponsor
  - Promulgate rules and policies that the board deems necessary
  - Ensure compliance with state laws and training requirements
  - Establish a procedure for accepting, approving, disapproving, renewing, and revoking charter school and statewide virtual charter school applications

- Give priority to opening charter schools and virtual charter schools that serve at-risk student populations or students from low performing traditional public schools.
- Section 2(B): The State Board of Education shall be responsible for accreditation of charter schools and virtual charter schools and ensure compliance with special education laws and federal laws and programs administered by the State Board of Education.
- Section 2(C): On July 1, 2024, Expands the definition of a “charter school” to include being sponsored by the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 2(D)(1): Defines a conversion school as a school created by converting all or part of a traditional public school, excluding virtual charter schools, to access the flexibilities provided to charter schools under the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act.
- Section 2(D)(2): Requires that before converting a traditional public school to a conversion school, the school district's board of education must prepare a written conversion plan that complies with specific requirements and make it available to the public. The approval of the conversion plan by the board should be conducted in an open public session and promptly notified to the State Board of Education.
- Section 2(D)(3): Requires that a conversion school complies with the same accountability measures as charter schools and the same laws and DoE rules relating to student enrollment as traditional public schools. Requires that conversion schools be funded by the board of education of the school district and requires that funding shall not be affected by its conversion.
- Section 2(D)(4): Allows a Board of Education to vote to revert a conversion school back to a traditional public school if the change occurs during a break between school years.
- Section 2(E)(1): Requires that the Statewide Charter School Board create a publicly available list of high-quality supplemental online courses that have been reviewed and certified to align with the subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education, with a focus on STEM, foreign language, and advanced placement courses, but school districts are not limited to selecting courses from this list.
- Section 2(E)(2): The Board, in collaboration with the OMES, is responsible for negotiating and establishing contracts with supplemental online course providers, offering a state rate price to school districts for courses that have been reviewed, certified, and listed by the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 3: Creates a “Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund” consisting of all money received from state appropriations.
- Section 4(B)(3): Changes the definition of “eligible charter school” for the purpose of Redbud fund eligibility to not include any statewide virtual charter schools sponsored by the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 5(A)(2): Repeals the provision that allows a technology center school district to sponsor a charter school if the charter school district served by the technology center school district in which all or part of the school district is in a county having more than five hundred thousand population. Repeals the provision that allows a technology center school district if the charter school is in a school district served by the technology center school district and the school district has a school site that has been identified as in need of improvement by the

State Board of Education. Allows higher education institutions, both public and private, to unconditionally sponsor a charter school. Removes the county population requirements around where the charter school is located for higher education institution sponsors.

- Section 5(A)(3): Repeals the provision stating that a higher education institution may sponsor a charter school in a district with a school site that has been identified as needing improvement, as the newly amended previous provision allows unrestricted sponsoring of charter schools by higher education institutions, so this provision is no longer needed.
- Section 5(A)(4): Removes the limit of only two charter schools allowed to be sponsored at a time by the Office of Juvenile Affairs or an applicant with a contract with the Office of Juvenile affairs if the charter school is for the purpose of providing education services to youth in the custody or supervision of the state.
- Section 5(A)(6): Modifies the wording to state that in counties with population fewer than 500,000, the Statewide Charter School Board shall not sponsor more than 5 new charter schools each year, while previously the wording was just “5 charter schools each year”. Removes the requirements of evidence in order to authorize a charter school.
- Section 5(D): Removes this provision’s definition of charter school.
- Section 5(E): Repeals this entire provision, and all its sub provisions, as it relates to conversion schools as that language is replaced with Section 2(D) of the new law.
- Section 5(F): Repeals this provision as it is replaced with identical wording in Section 2(C)(2) of the new law.
- Section 6(A): Changes the provider of training for charter school applicants from the State Department of Education to the Statewide Charter School Board. Expands the training definition to include virtual charter schools. Requires that the sponsor of a charter school that enters into a new or renewed sponsorship contract on or after July 1, 2024, complete training provided by the Board, or an organization approved by the Board on the oversight duties of the sponsor. Requires the Board to publish a list of organizations approved to provide training by July 1, 2024. Allows the Board and approved organizations to provide the training in any format and manner they determine efficient.
- Section 6(B): Expands the language on what is required in the written applications to include the virtual charter school applications to the Statewide Charter School Board, while previously it just applied to charter schools submitting a written application to the proposed sponsor.
  - “Or virtual charter school” is added after every spot in this section that says “charter school”
  - Removes the requirement of a demonstration of support for the charter school from residents of the school district
  - Requires that the charter school or virtual charter school governing board meet no fewer than 10 months of the year
  - Requires that a minimum of two members are residents within the geographic boundary of the charter school
  - Requires that the application includes a copy of any proposed contract between the governing board of a charter school or virtual charter school and an educational management organization

- Section 6(C): Inserts virtual charter schools after each mention of “charter school” within this provision.
- Section 6(D): Includes private institutions of higher learning within the list of sponsors in line with new and amended law and includes the Board as of July 1, 2024. Allows any sponsor to sponsor one or more charter schools. Requires that the physical location of a charter school sponsored by the Board to be in the school district in which the application originated.
- Section 6(E)(1): Requires that beginning July 1, 2024, any application seeking to establish a charter school in this state shall be submitted first to the school district in which the school will be located. A decision on approval or rejection shall be made within 60 days of the receipt of application. If the application is denied, there is no prohibition on submitting a revised application.
- Section 6(E)(2): Removes the ability for an applicant to appeal the decision to the State Board of Education.
- Section 6(E)(3): Requires that an applicant for a virtual charter school submit an application to the Statewide Charter School Board, which shall make a sponsorship decision within 90 days of the receipt of the application. If the application is rejected, the Statewide Charter School Board shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for rejection. The applicant may submit a revised application for reconsideration to the Statewide Charter School Board within thirty (30) days after receiving notification of the rejection, and the revised application shall be accepted or rejected within thirty (30) days of its receipt.
- Section 6(F): Requires sponsors to notify the State Board of Education and the Statewide Charter School Board when it accepts sponsorship of a charter school and include a copy of the charter.
- Section 6(G): Allows applicants to the Statewide Charter School Board to proceed to binding arbitration following rejection of a revised application, with the costs of arbitration borne by the applicant. Removes the prohibition on charter school applicants to school districts to go to arbitration.
- Section 6(H): Clarifies that specifically no administrative, fiscal, or oversight responsibilities of a charter school shall be delegated to a school district unless specifically contracted to do so.
- Section 6(I): Clarifies that the powers and duties of a public charter school mentioned in the sub-sections of this provision specifically apply to the powers and duties over charter schools it sponsors and grants the Statewide Charter School Board those same powers and duties.
- Section 6(I)(1): Expands language of the responsibility of sponsor to include services, while previously this clause just stated it performed oversight.
- Section 6(I)(6): Grants the sponsors the ability to approve or deny proposed contracts between governing boards of a charter school and an educational management organization.
- Section 6(J): Requires that the Statewide Charter School Board post its application, application process, and application time frames on the Board’s website.
- Section 7(A)(1): Moves the provision from Section 7(A)(5), which allows a charter school to be exempt from all statutes and rules relating to schools, boards of education, and school

districts as long as they are compliant with all federal regulations and state and local rules and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

- Section 7(A)(3): Requires a charter contract to provide a description of the educational program to be offered.
- Section 7(A)(5): Repeals the language now in Section 7(A)(1). Allows the Statewide Charter School Board to request that the State Auditor and Inspector conduct a financial, program, or compliance audit for any charter school or virtual charter school it oversees. Requires that the charter school utilize the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System to report financial transactions to the State Department of Education, while previously it was required to report transactions to the sponsoring school district. Requires that charter schools be subject to the statutory and constitutional limitations on spending for any funds received from the State.
- Section 7(A)(7): Requires all governing board members of a charter school to be residents of Oklahoma and meet no fewer than 10 months of the year in a public meeting within the boundaries of the school district in which the charter school is located or within Oklahoma if the governing body oversees multiple charter schools or a virtual charter school. Subjects charter school governing boards to the same conflict of interest and continuing education requirements as a member of the school district board of education.
- Section 7(A)(9): Requires that virtual charter schools be as equally free and open to all students as traditional public schools.
- Section 7(A)(16): Requires that a charter school governing board notify the sponsor within 10 business days of any significant adverse actions, material findings of noncompliance, or pending actions, claims, or proceedings in this state relating to the charter school or educational management organization.
- Section 7(A)(18): Requires that a charter school contract shall include performance provisions based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth academic and operational indicators that shall be used by sponsors to evaluate schools. Allows sponsors to develop a separate performance framework to evaluate a charter school that has been designated by SDE as implementing an alternative education program throughout the school. Requires that the charter school submit data required in the following subsection to charters schools governing board and sponsor in the identical format that is required by SDE of all public schools. It also requires that the sponsor annually evaluate its charter schools using at least the framework provided in this subsection. Requires, but does not limit the framework to, the following indicators.
  - Student academic proficiency
  - Student academic growth
  - Achievement gaps in both proficiency and growth between major student subgroups
  - Student attendance
  - Recurrent enrolment from year to year as determined by the methodology used for public schools in Oklahoma
  - In the case of high schools, graduation rates are determined by the methodology used for public schools in Oklahoma
  - In the case of high schools, postsecondary readiness

- Financial performance and sustainability and compliance with state and IRS financial reporting requirements
  - Audit findings or deficiencies
  - Accreditation and timely reporting
  - Governing board performance and stewardship
  - Mobility of student population for virtual charter schools
- Section 7(B): Allows applicants or the governing board of an applicant to hold one or more charter contracts. Requires for each charter school to be separate and distinct, meaning that for a charter school board that oversees more than one charter school, that they shall not combine accounting, budgeting, recordkeeping, admissions, employment or policies and operational decisions of the charter schools or virtual charter schools it oversees.
- Section 7(C): Prohibits charter schools from entering an employment contract with any teacher or other personnel until a contract has been executed with its sponsor. Requires the contract to set forth the personnel policies of the charter school including but not limited to policies related to certification, professional development, evaluation, suspension, dismissal and non-reemployment, sick leave, personal business leave, emergency leave, and family and medical leave. Requires the contract to specifically set forth the salary, hours, fringe benefits, and work conditions. Allows the contract to provide for employer-employee bargaining but does not require the charter school to comply with Sections 509.1 through 509.10. Requires the governing charter board to disclose employment rights of the employees in the event the charter school closes or is not renewed. Prohibits the charter school to begin serving students without a contract executed. Allows a governing board to establish reasonable preopening requirements or conditions to monitor the start-up progress of newly approved charter schools and ensure that each brick-and-mortar school is prepared to open smoothly on the date agreed and to ensure that each school meets all building, health, safety, insurance, and other legal requirements for the opening of a school.
- Section 7(F): Requires that a school district that proposes a bond to include any charter school located within the district and pursuant to subsection A of section 3-132 in planning conversations regarding the bond.
- Section 8(A): Establishes that for any new charter school contracted on or after July 1, 2024, they will have an initial five-year contract after which they may apply for a successive ten-year contract.
- Section 8(B): Requires the performance report to include the annual performance framework evaluation and a review of the contract with an educational management organization if applicable. Requires the performance report to provide notice of any violations or deficiencies. Allows the sponsor to require a charter school to develop a corrective action plan and corresponding timeline to remedy any weaknesses, concerns, violations, or deficiencies if applicable. Allows the sponsor to revoke or not renew a charter contract if the charter school does not substantially complete the corrective action plan.
- Section 8(G): Allows a charter school sponsor with a charter contract that includes multiple schools to terminate or not renew a charter school contract for a specific site.
- Section 8(H)(4): Repeals the requirement that a sponsor shall appear before the State Board to support its decision to not close a charter school, in the manner prescribed by this section

of law. Requires that a virtual charter school closed by its sponsor shall not be granted a subsequent charter contract.

- Section 8(H)(7): Amends the language of this provision to state that if at least 25% of charter schools chartered by a sponsor are closed within a 5-year period, the State Charter School Board may suspend their ability to sponsor schools, the previous language did not have the 5-year clause.
- Section 8(K): Requires the charter school to disclose revocation or nonrenewal in any subsequent application, if applicable. Repeals the provision, and all subsequent sub-provisions, that required a sponsor to present the applicant's proposal for a charter, if they had previously had its charter terminated or had been informed it won't be renewed.
- Section 10(E): Prohibits the Statewide Charter School Board from restricting the number of students a virtual charter school or charter school may enroll.
- Section 10(F): Requires that the geographic boundaries of any statewide virtual charter school, or virtual charter school for with the Board assumes sponsorship to be the state borders.
- Section 10(H): Prohibits students enrolled full-time in a statewide virtual charter school sponsored by the Statewide Charter School Board from participating in any OSSAA activities but allows them to participate in intramural activities sponsored by the virtual charter school, an online provider for the school, or any outside organization.
- Section 10(I)(1): Requires that a public-school student who wishes to enroll in a virtual charter school to be considered a transfer student from their resident school district. Requires a virtual charter school to pre-enroll any public-school student whose parent or legal guardian expresses intent to enroll in the virtual charter schools. Requires that upon pre-enrollment, the SDE shall initiate a transfer on a form to be completed by the receiving virtual charter school. Allows the student to begin instructional activities upon receiving approval of the virtual charter school. Requires the resident school district to transmit the student's records to the receiving virtual charter school within three school days of the notice that the student has transferred to a virtual charter school.
- Section 10(I)(2): Requires SDE to notify the Legislature and Governor if the IT infrastructure necessary to process the transfer or students to a virtual charter school is inadequate and additional notification time is needed.
- Section 10(I)(3): Allows a public-school student to transfer to one statewide virtual charter school at any time during a school year, meaning July 1 through the following June 30. Prohibits a student from transferring to another virtual charter school during the school year without agreement from the resident district and receiving virtual charter school. Allows a student a 15-day grace period from the first day of enrollment in a statewide virtual charter school to withdraw without penalty and retain the ability to transfer to another virtual charter school without needed concurrence. Prohibits a statewide virtual charter school student from utilizing an additional transfer without first notifying his or her resident district and initiating anew district. Requires the virtual charter school to transmit student's records to the new district within 3 school days upon cancellation of a transfer. Allows students enrolled in a statewide virtual charter school to enroll for consecutive years without needing to submit a transfer form after the first year. Allows a student enrolled in a statewide virtual charter

school the year prior to implementation to continue to be enrolled without needing to submit a transfer.

- Section 10(J)(1): Allows a student to enroll in a statewide virtual charter school if their parent or legal guardian is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within this state while on active military duty.
- Section 10(J)(2): Requires a statewide virtual charter school to accept applications by electronic means for enrollment and course registration for students mention in the previous sub-section.
- Section 10(J)(3): Requires parents and legal guardians of sub-section 1 students to provide proof of residence within the state within 10 days after the published arrival date on official documentation. The following are allowed to be used as addresses for proof of residence
  - Temporary on-base billeting facility
  - A purchases or leased home or apartment
  - Federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing
- Section 10(J)(5): Defines “active military duty” and “military installation” for the purposes of this Act.
- Section 11(A): Prohibits the Statewide Charter School Board from charging any charter school or virtual charter school a fee for administrative or other services if they are sponsored by an entitle other than the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 11(B): Requires the fee authorized for all sponsors except for the Statewide Charter School Board to be used to provide oversight and services. Requires SDE to develop data codes for the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System to be used to comply with the service reporting requirements. Requires that a charter school sponsor to publish a detailed report on its website and present the report in a public meeting of the charter school governing board and the sponsor governing board. Requires the report to provide sponsor performance and stewardship.
- Section 11(B)(1): Repeals the differing first year weighted average daily membership reporting standards for charter schools.
- Section 11(H): Shifts ownership of the “Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund” from SDE to the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 12: Requires the Statewide Charter School Board to issue an annual report to Legislature and the Governor outlining the status of charter schools, while previously this was SDE’s responsibility.
- Section 13(A): Shifts ownership of the “Charter Schools Incentive Fund” from SDE to the Statewide Charter School Board.
- Section 14: Repeals the provision as it relates to the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board succeeding any contractual rights and responsibilities incurred by a school district in a virtual charter school contract.
- Section 15(A): Sunsets the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Revolving Fund on July 1, 2024.
- Section 15(B): Requires the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board to transfer any unencumbered funds to the Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Funds on July 1,



2024, and requires all unexpended funds to be transferred to the Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund on January 1, 2025.

- Section 17: Requires each charter school sponsor governing board to designate a representative from the board to complete an annual sponsor workshop requirement provided by the Statewide Charter School Board. Requires the workshop to include information regarding the Oklahoma Charter Schools act, charter school governance, IRS nonprofit rules, and school finance laws.
- Section 19(D): Expands the provision of this existing law to apply to any educational entity which contracts with an educational management organization. Prohibits the expenditure limits from exceeding the percentages prescribed in the previous subsections of this section. Requires the calculation of administrative services for schools which contract with an educational management organization to be the combined number of administrative services expended by the school and the educational management organization.
- Section 19(E)(9): Expands the definition of administrative services to include any administrative services paid to an educational management organization.
- Section 22: Repeals Sections 3-135, 3-145.1, 3-145.2, 3-145.3, and 3-145.4 of Title 70

Amendment to: 70 O.S. §§ 3-104, 3-132, 3-134, 3-136, 3-137, 3-139, 3-140, 3-142, 3-143, 3-144, 3-145.5, 3-145.7, 3-145.8, 5-200, 18-124, and 1210.704

Helpful statutory reference: 70 O.S. §§ 3-132, 3-134, 3-136, 3-137, 3-140, 3-142, 5-110, 5-110.1, 5-113, 5-124, 5-200, 509.1, 509.10, 4103

New law at: 70 O.S. §§ 3-132.1, 3-132.2, 3-132.3, 3-145.9, and 3-145.10

## **S.B. 550**

RE: S.B. 550

SUBJECT: Higher Education

Senate Bill 550 becomes effective July 1, 2023. This bill requires the State Regents to enact rules to ensure that private and out-of-state degree-granting institutions that operate in this state are at the same standard of academic quality and fiscal responsibility.

- Section 1 (B)(1): Requires State Regents establish and collect fees annually from applicants for authorization to cover costs of authorization.
- Section 1(B)(2): Requires applicants to submit payment into the Tuition Recovery Fund.
- Section 1(B)(3): Authorizes State Regents to deny, not renew, or revoke authorization if it is found to be in violation of Oklahoma statutes, fails to meet minimum authorization standards, or if an accrediting agency or other government entity revokes its approval. Any institution will be given reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard prior to authorization being denied, not renewed, or revoked.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 4103

New law at: 70 O.S. § 4103.1

## S.B. 621

RE: S.B. 621

SUBJECT: Workforce development

Senate Bill 621 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill creates the Oklahoma Workforce Commission to coordinate the development of the workforce in Oklahoma. The Commission has the authority to coordinate funding and activities of various workforce development programs and entities in the state. It serves as the main point of contact for public officials, businesses, and the general public regarding workforce development. The Commission is required to consult with experts and government agencies/personnel in workforce development and can establish advisory committees with relevant agencies, departments, educational institutions, and the private sector.

- Section 3: Creates the Oklahoma Workforce Commission to coordinate the development of the workforce in Oklahoma. The Commission has the authority to coordinate funding and activities of various workforce development programs and entities in the state. It serves as the main point of contact for public. This commission does not have direct governing control over state and local agencies, educational institutions, and other workforce development entities, unless prescribed by law.
- Section 4(A): States that the Oklahoma Workforce Commission shall be composed of 9 members.
  - 3 appointed by the President Pro Tempore
  - 3 appointed by the House of Representatives
  - 3 appointed by the Governor, 1 of which will be designated the chair of the commission
- Section 4(B): Requires that all members of the Commission be qualified electors of this state. Members must not have been employed by any government entity within the prior year.
- Section 4(C): Establishes that the 3 of the Commissioners shall serve a 1-year term, 3 shall serve a 2-year term, and 3 shall serve a 3-year term. One of each from each appointing authority. After this first appointment each Commissioner will have a term of 3 years. There is no limit to the number of terms an individual may serve on the Commission.
- Section 4(D): Requires that Commissioners who fill vacancies on the Commission to be reappointed at the end of the unexpired term if they are to continue as a member of the Commission. All members of the Commission will serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.
- Section 4(E): Requires that the Oklahoma Workforce Commission can appoint additional officers, apart from the chair appointed by the Governor. These officers will be elected through a majority vote by the Commissioners. The chair will lead the Commission's meetings, and the officers will have responsibilities assigned by the Commission. The

chair must convene the first meeting of the Commission within sixty days of the act's effective date.

- Section 4(F): Prohibits members of the Commission from receiving a salary but allows them to be reimbursed for expenses and travel related to their work on the Commission.
- Section 4(G): Allows members of the Commission to serve on any other state board or commission if such member is otherwise qualified to the position notwithstanding any statutory limitations elsewhere in Oklahoma law.
- Section 4(H): Requires 5 members to be present for the Commission to have quorum.
- Section 5: Gives the Oklahoma Workforce Commission various powers, duties, and responsibilities. These include:
  - Establishing an office for the Commission.
  - Cooperating with other entities.
  - Accepting donations and grants.
  - Overseeing the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development.
  - Collecting data from educational institutions and other public entities on workforce development programming.
  - Creating and maintaining a public dashboard and reports on workforce development efforts; and
  - Making recommendations to the Legislature for improving workforce development programs in the state.

Amendment to: 51 O.S. §§ 253 and 255

Helpful Executive Order References: EO 2005-27

Helpful Statutory References: 62 O.S. § 255.4; 74 O.S. § 5003.10d

## **S.B. 710**

RE: S.B. 710

SUBJECT: Schools

Senate Bill 710 became effective May 5, 2023. This bill expands the authority of school officials to administer emergency opioid antagonists. Additionally, the term “opiate overdose” is replaced with “opioid overdose” and the term “opiate antagonist” is replaced by “emergency opioid antagonist” in all instances within the law.

Existing Law only authorized the administering of an opiate antagonist if there was a prescription or standing order to do so.

- Section 1(A): Expands the authority of previously designated school officials to administer an emergency opioid antagonist regardless of whether there is a prescription or standing order in place.
- Section 1(C): Expands the authority of the school administration to authorize any person to administer an emergency opioid antagonist regardless of whether there is a prescription or standing order in place.
- Section 1(E): Adds a definition of Emergency Opioid Antagonist. Defines “emergency opioid antagonist” as a drug including but not limited to naloxone that blocks the effects of opioids and that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of an opioid overdose.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 1210.242

## **S.B. 930**

RE: S.B. 930

SUBJECT: Aerospace

Senate Bill 930 becomes effective November 1, 2023. This bill modifies the scope of education programs administered by the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission.

- Section 85(B): Allows the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission to organize and administer an aerospace and aviation education program. The AeroSPACE Program, also known as the Aero Student Pathways for Aerospace Careers and Education, is a collaborative program partnering with primary, secondary, and higher education institutions as well as career technology providers. Its aim is to meet the workforce needs of the aviation and aerospace industry by promoting and organizing quality curriculum, classroom instruction, and research-based educational programs. The program works closely with the industry and functions as a platform for information collection and sharing, activity development and implementation, and resource dissemination related to aerospace education. Its primary goal is to create a unified statewide strategy for implementing aerospace educational curriculum initiatives, with the intent to better prepare students for careers in aviation and aerospace. The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission has the authority to utilize established program processes or contract with other qualified entities to operate the AeroSPACE Program. It can also accept various forms of funding such as donations, contractual arrangements, in-kind services, and federal or state appropriations and grants.

Amendment to: 3 O.S. § 85

## S.B. 1118

RE: S.B. 1118

SUBJECT: Schools

Senate Bill 1118 became effective May 25, 2023. This bill makes an appropriation to the State Board of Education which directs the establishment of a pilot program to employ literacy instructional teams.

- Section 1: \$10,000,000 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the State Board of Education to be used for the implementation of provisions outlined in Section 2 of this act.
- Section 2(A): Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the State Department of Education is to establish a three-year pilot program, based on the requirements of Section 1210.508C of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The pilot program will employ a literacy instructional team to support school districts, providing technical assistance for literacy instruction, and acting as a primary source of support for students struggling with literacy, dyslexia, and related disorders.
- Section 2(B): The Department is to employ a literacy instructional team, regionally placed across the state. This team will assist general and special education teachers to improve literacy outcomes for all students, with particular focus on those with dyslexia or risk characteristics associated with dyslexia. Support will be prioritized for schools with the highest percentage of students who do not demonstrate sufficient reading skills, as established by the State Board of Education.
- Section 2(C): Team members are required to have training in the science of reading, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, writing, language, multisensory structured reading instruction, identification and appropriate interventions for struggling students, the requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act, special education laws and procedures, and appropriate interventions for students with dyslexia or related disorders.
- Section 2(D): Team members will report to the Director of Reading Sufficiency. The department will employ a minimum of five regional literacy leads, one of whom will be a dyslexia specialist, and a minimum of ten literacy specialists. Preference for these positions will be given to educators with specific qualifications and knowledge.
- Section 2(E): The State Department of Education must submit a report by December 31, 2026, to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. This report will evaluate the pilot program's effectiveness, assess its impact on increasing the number of students proficient in reading, and make recommendations for changes to the Reading Sufficiency Act.

New law at: 70 O.S. § 1210.508H

## S.B. 1119

RE: S.B. 1119

SUBJECT: Schools

Senate Bill 1119 became effective May 25, 2023. This bill creates a new minimum salary schedule for certified personnel.

- Section 1(A): From the 2023-2024 school year onwards, certified personnel in Oklahoma's public schools will be subject to a new minimum salary schedule. The law provides a detailed salary scale based on years of experience and level of educational attainment.
- Section 1(B): "Fringe benefits" are defined as part or all of retirement benefits, excluding contributions made pursuant to Section 17-108.1 of Title 70 and excluding the flexible benefit allowance from Section 26-105 of Title 70. School districts providing retirement benefits such that the teacher's salary falls below the minimum salary schedule must provide prior written notice to the affected teacher.
- Section 1(C): Any of the degrees referenced must be recognized by the State Board of Education. The Board is obligated to accept teaching experience from in-state, out-of-state, and out-of-country schools, provided they meet certain accreditation standards. If certification documentation is in a language other than English, it should be analyzed by an educational credential evaluation service. The costs associated with this analysis are the responsibility of the person seeking to have credit granted for out-of-country teaching experience.
- Section 1(D): When considering state salary increments and retirement, a teacher will not be granted credit for more than five years of active military service or out-of-state or out-of-country teaching experience. However, individual boards of education can credit more years of experience for district salary schedules than those permitted for state purposes.
- Section 1(E): Stipulates that the State Board of Education should recognize all years of experience of certified teachers in certain roles for the purpose of certification and salary increments. The roles include teachers who work in the educational program of the Department of Corrections, vocational rehabilitation counselors under the Department of Human Services, teachers employed by the Child Study Center at University Hospital, and school psychologists or psychometrists employed by any agency of the State of Oklahoma. This includes positions that transitioned from educational roles to rehabilitation roles, specialized education settings, and professionals working in the psychological field within the educational system.
- Section 1(F): Excludes teachers in postretirement employment who are receiving a monthly retirement benefit from the provisions of this section.
- Section 1(G): Ensures personnel employed in the 2022-2023 school year and receiving a salary above the step level indicated by the State Minimum Salary Schedule for the same



year will receive an increase equal to the amount indicated for the person's step level in Subsection A unless their hours or duties are proportionately reduced.

- Section 1(H): Allows allocation of funds by the State Board of Education for salary increases in school districts that do not receive Foundation or Salary Incentive Aid.
- Section 1(I, J, K): These three subsections apply the provisions of the new law to specific categories of teaching professionals, thereby ensuring a wider scope of application of the new salary schedules. Subsection I specifies that classroom instructional employees of technology center school districts supervised by the State Board of Career and Technology Education are entitled to a salary increase as outlined in subsection A, based on their years of experience. This increase is conditional on their continued employment with the same technology center school district, barring any proportional reduction in their working hours or duties. Subsection J mirrors these provisions for correctional teachers, vocational instructors working for the Department of Corrections, and teachers employed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs. These employees are also eligible for the salary increments listed in subsection A, given they remain in the same Department of Corrections or Office of Juvenile Affairs facility, and barring proportional reductions to their hours or duties. Finally, Subsection K extends these same conditions to teachers employed by the State Department of Rehabilitation Services. They are also eligible for the same salary increments if they remain employed by the Department and their duties or hours are not reduced proportionately.
- Section 2: Repeals 70 O.S. § 18-114.14.

# STATE MINIMUM TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE

2023-2024

70 O.S. § 18-114.15

Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, certified personnel, as defined in 70 O.S. § 26-103, in the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe benefits not less than the amount specified in the following schedule. When determining minimum salary, "fringe benefits" shall mean only the employee's share of retirement, *if paid by the district*.

Year of Experience	Bachelor's Degree	*Bachelor's + National Board Certification	Master's Degree	*Master's + National Board Certification	Doctor's Degree
0	\$39,601	\$40,759	\$40,991	\$42,149	\$42,381
1	\$40,035	\$41,193	\$41,425	\$42,583	\$42,815
2	\$40,469	\$41,628	\$41,859	\$43,018	\$43,249
3	\$40,904	\$42,062	\$42,294	\$43,452	\$43,684
4	\$41,338	\$42,496	\$42,728	\$43,886	\$44,118
5	\$42,810	\$43,968	\$44,200	\$45,358	\$45,590
6	\$43,273	\$44,432	\$44,663	\$45,822	\$46,054
7	\$43,737	\$44,895	\$45,127	\$46,285	\$46,517
8	\$44,200	\$45,358	\$45,590	\$46,749	\$46,980
9	\$44,663	\$45,822	\$46,054	\$47,212	\$47,444
10	\$46,684	\$47,844	\$48,568	\$49,728	\$50,945
11	\$47,177	\$48,336	\$49,061	\$50,221	\$51,438
12	\$47,670	\$48,829	\$49,554	\$50,713	\$51,931
13	\$48,162	\$49,322	\$50,047	\$51,206	\$52,424
14	\$48,655	\$49,815	\$50,539	\$51,699	\$52,916
15	\$50,167	\$51,327	\$52,052	\$53,212	\$54,430
16	\$50,660	\$51,820	\$52,545	\$53,705	\$54,923
17	\$51,153	\$52,313	\$53,038	\$54,198	\$55,416
18	\$51,646	\$52,806	\$53,531	\$54,691	\$55,909
19	\$52,139	\$53,299	\$54,024	\$55,184	\$56,402
20	\$52,652	\$53,813	\$54,538	\$55,698	\$56,917
21	\$53,145	\$54,306	\$55,031	\$56,192	\$57,410
22	\$53,639	\$54,799	\$55,524	\$56,685	\$57,903
23	\$54,132	\$55,292	\$56,018	\$57,178	\$58,397
24	\$54,625	\$55,785	\$56,511	\$57,671	\$58,890
25	\$56,049	\$57,232	\$57,971	\$59,153	\$60,395

***Note: Teachers eligible to receive the National Board Certification bonus shall not be eligible to receive the additional salary increment set forth in this salary schedule.***

\*National Board Certification columns are for teachers who applied for and/or received National Board Certification after June 30, 2013.

Career/Technology Ag Teacher**	= Minimum Salary	+ \$2,600/year - 12-month contract
Other Career/Tech Teacher**	= Minimum Salary	+ \$2,200/year - 10-month contract

Special Education Teacher\*\*\* = Minimum Salary + 5 percent above the prevailing wage paid teachers of children who are nondisabled in the same school district.

\*\*Salary distribution per the policies and procedures manual of the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education.

\*\*\*Salary distribution mandated by 70 O.S. § 13-110: Also includes Resource Teachers, Education Diagnosticians, and Speech Pathologists/Therapists.

The State Board of Education shall accept teaching experience from out-of-state school districts that are accredited by the State Board of Education or appropriate state accrediting agency for said districts. For the purpose of state salary increments and retirement, no teacher shall be granted credit for more than five (5) years active duty in the military service or out-of-state or out-of-country teaching experience as a certified teacher or its equivalent. Nothing in this section shall prohibit boards of education from crediting more years of experience on local salary schedules than those allowed for state purposes. The provisions of the above salary schedule shall not apply to teachers who have entered into postretirement employment with a public school in Oklahoma and are still receiving a monthly retirement benefit. (70 O.S. § 18-

New law at: 70 O.S. § 18-114.15

## S.B. 1120

RE: S.B. 1120

SUBJECT: State Board of Education

Senate Bill 1120 became effective May 25, 2023. This bill modifies the method of calculating Redbud grants.

- Section 1(B)(1)(h): If the Legislature's annual allocation to the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund, as stated in Section 32, Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution, surpasses the sum required to offer the redbud school grants as defined by subparagraph g of this section, then a different process is used to establish the grant amounts.
  - The first step involves determining the highest percentile up to the hundredth decimal point of the nonchargeable millage shortfall per student across all school districts and eligible charter schools, given the available funds.
  - The next step involves deducting the highest percentile (to the hundredth decimal place) from the nonchargeable millage shortfall per student for each district. This calculated total is then multiplied by the average daily membership of the previous school year, in compliance with the terms of Section 18-107 of this title.
  - The resulting figure from this computation will be the fiscal year's redbud school grant amount for the specific school district or qualifying charter school.
- Section 1(B)(7): In case there is a revenue failure per the Oklahoma State Finance Act, the Redbud grants, as mentioned in subsection B, will face a proportional reduction. This reduction is aligned with the decrease in the funds appropriated to the State Board of Education for public school support for the fiscal year during which the revenue failure happens.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 3-104

Helpful statutory reference: 68 O.S. § 1353

## S.B. 1121

RE: S.B. 1121

Subject: Paid Maternity Leave

Senate Bill 1121 became effective July 1, 2023. This bill provides eligible employees with 6 weeks of paid maternity leave. It also creates the Education Employee Paid Maternity Leave Revolving Fund.

- Section 1(A): Entitles employees who meet one of the following conditions to 6 weeks of paid maternity leave immediately following the birth of a child
  - Full-time employees of a public school district in this state who have been employed by the school district for at least one year and have worked at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the preceding twelve-month period.
  - Persons employed full time as classroom instructional employees of technology center school districts supervised by the State Board of Career and Technology Education who have been employed by the technology center school district for at least one year and have worked at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the preceding twelve-month period.
  - Persons employed as teachers by the State Department of Rehabilitation Services who have been employed by the State Department of Rehabilitation Services for at least one year and have worked at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the preceding twelve-month period.
  - Persons employed full time as correctional teachers or vocational instructors by the Department of Correction for at least one year and have worked at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the preceding twelve-month period.
  - Persons employed full time as teachers by the Office of Juvenile Affairs who have been employed by an Office of Juvenile Affairs facility for at least one year and have worked at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the preceding twelve-month period.
- Section 1(B): Clarifies that paid maternity leave is in addition to and not in place of sick leave due to pregnancy, as it is provided in 70 O.S. § 6-104, 57 O.S. § 510.6a, and 10A O.S. § 2-7-202
- Section 1(C): Prohibits any employee who takes maternity leave to be deprived of any compensation or benefits that they are otherwise entitled to.
- Section 1(D): Requires the legislature to appropriate adequate funding to the Public-School Paid Maternity Leave Revolving Fund each fiscal year. Requires the State Board of Education to appropriate funds to fully fund paid maternity leave if the legislature does not appropriate adequate funding specifically for the purpose of providing paid maternity leave

- Section 1(E): Allows the State Board of Education, the State Board of Career and Technology Education, the Commission for Rehabilitation Services, the State Board of Corrections, and the Board of Juvenile Affairs to promulgate rules to implement the provisions of the section.
- Section 7(A): Creates the Public-School Paid Maternity Leave Revolving Fund for the State Board of Education
- Section 7(B): Instructs School districts to file claims with the State Board of Education for reimbursement of expenses related to maternity leave
- Section 8(A): Creates the Education Employee Paid Maternity Leave Revolving Fund for the Office of Management and Enterprise Services
- Section 8(B): Instructs the Department of Career and Technology Education, Department of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Corrections, Office of Juvenile Affairs to file claims with the Director of OMES for reimbursement of expenses related to providing paid maternity leave

Amendment to: 10A O.S. § 2-7-202; 57 O.S. § 510.6a; and 70 O.S. §§ 6-104.1, 6-104.5, and 6-104.6

New law at: 70 O.S. §§ 6-104.8, 6-104.9, and 6-104.10