

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1199

BY: PAULK, BOYD and JOHNSON  
(Rob)

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING SECTION 1,  
CHAPTER 126, O.S.L. 1982 (70 O.S. SUPP. 1990,  
SECTION 11-103.1), WHICH RELATES TO TEACHING  
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOL; PROVIDING  
THAT AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE MAY BE COUNTED AS AN  
ELECTIVE COURSE FOR PURPOSES OF OFFERING AND  
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; SPECIFYING WHO MAY TEACH  
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE; AMENDING SECTION 2, CHAPTER  
126, O.S.L. 1982 (70 O.S. SUPP. 1990, SECTION  
3208.1), WHICH RELATES TO COURSES AND CREDIT FOR  
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE; STRIKING LANGUAGE  
RECOGNIZING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AS A FOREIGN  
LANGUAGE; AUTHORIZING CREDITS GIVEN FOR AMERICAN  
SIGN LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO MEET ELECTIVE  
COURSE ENTRANCE AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS;  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DECLARING AN  
EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 126, O.S.L.  
1982 (70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Section 11-103.1), is amended to read as  
follows:

Section 11-103.1 American Sign Language is hereby recognized as a language art and may be taught in the public schools of the state in educational programs for both hearing and deaf students. American Sign Language classes taught in the public schools may be counted by a public school in fulfilling elective course offerings. For the purposes of this section, American Sign Language may be taught in the public schools by any qualified teacher under the supervision of a certified teacher.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 126, O.S.L. 1982 (70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Section 3208.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3208.1 It is the intent of the Legislature that American Sign Language be recognized as ~~a foreign language~~ an elective course. Any institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education may, in accordance with Section 3208 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, offer courses in American Sign Language and grant credit for such courses in the same manner as provided for other ~~foreign language~~ elective courses. Course credit earned by a student for American Sign Language classes taken in the public schools may be credited by an institution for purposes of meeting elective course entrance or graduation requirements or both entrance and graduation requirements.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1991.

SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of March, 1991.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1991.

President of the Senate