

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 43rd Legislature (1991)

SENATE BILL NO. 312

BY: LONG (Ed) and WILLIAMS
(Penny)

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOLS; AMENDING SECTION 35,
CHAPTER 2, O.S.L. SUPP. 1989 (70 O.S. SUPP. 1990,
SECTION 10-105.3), WHICH RELATES TO PARENT
EDUCATION PROGRAMS; DELETING CERTAIN PHASE-IN
RESTRICTION; AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CERTAIN GRANTS;
PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN AWARD CRITERIA; PROVIDING
FOR, AND LIMITING, RENEWAL OF GRANTS; REQUIRING
CERTAIN ACTION ON RULES AND REGULATIONS BY CERTAIN
DATE; AUTHORIZING USE OF VOLUNTEERS FOR CERTAIN
PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN TRAVEL
REIMBURSEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 35, Chapter 2, O.S.L. 1989
(70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Section 10-105.3), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 10-105.3 A. The State Board of Education shall develop
and implement a program of parent education which provides practical
information and guidance to parents regarding the development of

language, cognition, social skills, and motor development of young children. The program shall be phased in ~~so that services will be available to parents of children under age three (3) in school districts identified by the Board as having the greatest numbers of children who are considered to be at risk in education by~~ beginning with the 1991-92 school year. The Board shall expand the program each year to ensure that a parent education program is offered within all school districts by the 1994-95 school year.

B. The program shall emphasize the importance of the parents ~~of children~~ as a child's first and most influential teachers. The parent education programs currently offered in other states should be examined as possible models for the Oklahoma program.

C. Contingent upon the provision of appropriated funds designated for parent education program competitive grants, the State Board of Education is authorized to award one or more such grants to local education agencies or nonprofit organizations for providing such programs and one competitive grant for operation of a Parent Education Programs Technical Assistance Center.

D. Program grant recipients shall have priority, if recommended by the Technical Assistance Center and if funds are available, for annual renewal of grants by the State Board of Education. The Technical Assistance Center grant recipient shall have priority, if its operations are deemed satisfactory by the State Board of Education and if funds are available, for annual renewal of the grant.

E. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is authorized to utilize, in addition to personnel of the State Department of Education or other state agencies, the services of not more than five volunteers who are not state employees for assistance with the initial preparation of proposed rules and regulations for parent education programs. Said volunteers shall be reimbursed by the State Board of Education for actual travel expenses incurred on or

before September 1, 1991, pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Rules and regulations necessary for the solicitation, acceptance, and evaluation of proposals for program and technical assistance center grants authorized by this act shall, if grants are funded by the Legislature for operation of programs during the 1991-92 school year, be presented to the State Board of Education for emergency adoption not later than June 30, 1991.

F. Rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Education shall incorporate or provide for, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. The possibility of awards for one or more of a variety of program proposals targeted for services to limited portions of the population to be served, according to such distinctions as age groupings, rural or urban settings, other cultural characteristics, or innovative service delivery strategies;

2. Requirements that program grant recipients:

a. have clear and measurable goals and objectives,

b. show evidence of having utilized the services of relevant state and community-level organizations, where appropriate, in the development of their proposals, and

c. agree to comply with all requirements of the Technical Assistance Center regarding use of assessment instruments, provision of data, and provision of information necessary for program evaluation;

3. Requirements that the recipient of the Technical Assistance Center grant show command of relevant research and demonstrate capability for:

a. providing technical assistance, including operation of clearinghouse functions,

b. evaluating programs for effectiveness,

- c. making program cost assessments,
- d. promoting replication of successful programs, and
- e. assisting program providers in attaining national validation of their programs and in qualifying for federal funding;

4. Utilization of a selection committee to review applications for program and Technical Assistance Center grants and make recommendations to the State Board of Education, said selection committee to include, to the greatest extent feasible under constraints of time and funding, nationally recognized experts in parent education; and

5. Revocation of the grant by, and ineligibility for award of any future grant pursuant to this section to, any grant recipient who employs within two (2) years following the effective date of this act any person serving as a volunteer pursuant to subsection E of this section or any person serving as a member of a selection committee during or within two (2) years following such person's service pursuant to paragraph 4 of this subsection.

SECTION 2. 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.

43-1-329

WHT