

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1696

By: Greenwood

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Sections 11-103.6 and 11-103.6a, which relate to the curriculum; changing implementation date of the curriculum; providing for evaluation of the curriculum; allowing participation by certain schools; requiring certain evaluations; requiring certain testing; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 11-103.6, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-103.6 A. By February 1, 1991, the State Board of Education shall adopt curricular standards for instruction of students in the public schools of this state that are to be implemented not later than the ~~1993-94~~ 1998-99 school year and that are necessary to ensure there is attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas to include language, social studies and communication. Such curricular standards shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of subsections B and C of Section 11-103.5 of this title. All students must initially gain literacy at the elementary and secondary levels through a core curriculum. Students must develop skills in reading, writing,

speaking, computing and critical thinking. They also must learn about cultures and environments - their own and those of others with whom they share the earth. Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature, languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in cooperation with vocational-technical education schools. The core curriculum shall be designed to teach the competencies for which twelfth grade level students shall be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or post secondary education.

It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that Oklahoma history be included in the social studies core curriculum for purposes of this section.

B. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the amount of course credits earned.

C. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of specified levels of competencies in each area of the core curriculum. Provided, however, that children who have individualized education plans pursuant to The Education For All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-142) as amended may be exempted from the requirements of this subsection.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 11-103.6a, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-103.6a A. The curriculum adopted by the State Board of Education for implementation by the beginning of the ~~1993-94~~ 1998-99 school year shall be thoroughly reviewed by the State Board every three (3) years, and the State Board shall implement any

revisions in such curriculum deemed necessary to achieve further improvements in the quality of education for the students of this state.

B. Beginning in the 1993-94 school year, those schools which began implementation of the curriculum adopted by the State Board of Education in 1991, pursuant to Section 11-103.6 of this title prior to the 1993-94 school year, shall have the option of participating in a five-year evaluation program of the curriculum. The State Board of Education shall administer the program which shall evaluate the curriculum to determine whether it is successful in preparing students to reach desired levels of competencies and the cost involved in implementing the curriculum. Norm-referenced tests shall be administered to the students at the beginning of the program and again at the end of the program.

SECTION 3. 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.

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