

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1970

By: Hager, Begley and Boyd
(Laura) of the House

and

Williams of the Senate

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 44, Chapter 247, O.S.L. 1996 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 1210.568), which relates to the statewide system of alternative education programs; requiring school districts to update certain student needs assessment and alternative education plan; requiring plan to include a professional development program for teachers; requiring the State Board of Education to issue an annual report; stating content of report; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 44, Chapter 247, O.S.L. 1996 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 1210.568), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.568 A. Beginning with the first semester of the 1996-1997 school year, the State Board of Education shall implement a statewide system of alternative education programs which shall be phased-in within five (5) years. Beginning with the first semester of the 2000-2001 school year, all school districts of this state

shall provide alternative education programs that conform to the requirements of statutes and rules applicable to alternative education. An alternative education program may be offered by an individual school district or may be offered jointly by school districts that have formed interlocal cooperative agreements pursuant to Section 5-117b of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. Beginning with the 1997-1998 school year, the statewide system of alternative education programs shall require each school district to update, on an annual basis, the student needs assessment and alternative education plan required pursuant to Section 1210.566 of this title. The alternative education plan of each school district shall provide for a specific professional development program for the teachers teaching or working in the alternative education program. The annual needs assessment data shall be incorporated by the State Board of Education into an annual report which shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Governor. The report shall also include a listing by school district of the number of students funded and the reported number of students served.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1997.

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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 27th day of February, 1997.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1997.

President of the Senate