

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 SENATE BILL NO. 763

By: Williams of the Senate

and

6 Blackburn of the House

7
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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to schools; recognizing the role of
11 public school paraprofessionals; stating legislative
12 intent that the State Board of Education adopt a
13 program for public school paraprofessionals; defining
14 certain term; providing for codification; providing
15 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-127A of Title 70, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 The Oklahoma Legislature recognizes that public school
21 paraprofessionals play an important role in educating school
22 children and in assisting teachers. The Legislature further
23 recognizes the increasing role of public school paraprofessionals in
24 the school system in light of teacher shortages. To achieve the
25 goal of excellence for all persons who have an impact on student
26 learning, it is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that public
27 school paraprofessionals be afforded career opportunities and
28 economic incentives through a career development program.

29 It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that the State
30 Board of Education adopt a program for the career development of
31 public school paraprofessionals. The purpose of the program is to
32 provide to public school paraprofessionals a system of career

1 development which is based upon education and training advancement
2 to encourage excellence among public school paraprofessionals.

3 For the purposes of this section, a public school
4 paraprofessional is an employee of a school district whose position
5 is either instructional in nature, or who delivers other direct
6 services to students and/or their parents. A public school
7 paraprofessional serves in a position for which a teacher or another
8 professional has the ultimate responsibility for the design,
9 implementation, and evaluation of the individual educational
10 programs or related services and student performance.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

12 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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