

ENROLLED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2467

By: Ross and Gilbert of the  
House

and

Horner and Williams of the  
Senate

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 1210.553, as amended by Section 48, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1210.553), which relates to grants for at-risk or disadvantaged urban school districts; modifying eligibility requirements for certain grants; limiting grants to after-school programs; making grants contingent upon provisions of certain funds; requiring the State Board of Education to include certain criteria for pilot programs; amending Section 56, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999, which relates to implementation of certain sections of law; modifying sections of law; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 1210.553, as amended by Section 48, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1210.553), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.553 A. ~~Contingent upon the provision of appropriated funds designated for such purpose, the~~ The State Board of Education may award one or more competitive grants to school districts or nonprofit organizations for providing academically-oriented programs to students in ~~at-risk or disadvantaged urban school districts~~ low-performing or high-challenge elementary or middle schools needing or desiring such programs ~~during before-school, after-school, and summer periods~~ after school. Such grants shall be contingent upon the provision of appropriated or other available funds designated for the purpose of improving the academic achievement of students in such schools, including, but not limited to, funding from Great Expectations programs.

B. The State Board of Education shall determine pilot program criteria ~~and~~ which shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Interactive learning with individualized tutorial assistance in one central location;

2. Professional tutorial support and resources in reading, language arts, and mathematics;

3. A maximum tutor-to-student ratio of three to one which may be achieved through the utilization of paraprofessionals and college student volunteers;

4. Support for and enhancement of professional development for teachers in the school; and

5. Development of workshops and support programs for parents.

The State Board of Education shall establish a process for the consideration of proposals. Such proposals for pilot programs which shall be considered made on a statewide competitive basis. The State Board of Education is authorized to promulgate rules for the operation of such programs.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 56, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999, is amended to read as follows:

Section 56. Implementation of Sections 37 through 47 and Sections 49 through 54 of this act, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999, shall be delayed until the current expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance in public elementary and secondary schools in unadjusted dollars for the 1998-99 school year or any school year thereafter for Oklahoma as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics annually in the Digest of Education Statistics reaches at least ninety percent (90%) of the regional average expenditure for that same year, and funds are provided. For purposes of this section, the regional average expenditure shall consist of the current expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance in public elementary and secondary schools in unadjusted dollars for each of the following states: Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, averaged together. By January 1 of each year the State Board of Education shall report whether or not the ninety-percent expenditure level has been reached based on information reported annually in the Digest of Education Statistics by the National Center for Education Statistics. Sections 37 through 47 and Sections 49 through 54 of this act, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999, shall be implemented on July 1 after the first January 1 report verifies that the ninety-percent expenditure level has been reached and funds have been provided.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

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 24th day of May, 2000.

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Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 24th day of May, 2000.

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President of the Senate