

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 23, 1999

ENGROSSED

Senate Bill No. 674

As Amended

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 674 -- By CAIN and WILLIAMS of the Senate and SEIKEL and TOURE of the House.

An Act relating to schools; creating the Oklahoma Learning Communities Partnership Act; providing short title; stating purposes; providing for governance by a board of directors; providing for membership, terms, quorum and compensation of members; providing for powers, duties and authority of the Partnership; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.900 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Learning Communities Partnership Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.901 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created a public-private partnership to be known as the Oklahoma Learning Communities Partnership.

The Partnership shall have as its purposes to:

1. Develop a statewide public-private partnership entity to augment community efforts with planning, financing, and delivery services for children and families;
2. Develop and enhance collaborative efforts between the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, the Department of Human Services, the State Department of Education, the State Department of Health, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to deliver services designed to improve the conditions of Oklahoma's families and children;
3. Continue development of existing innovative programs for children and families in this state;

4. Develop and enhance community capacity;

5. Organize and disseminate data and information between agencies, particularly with respect to collaborative programs; and

6. Develop specific program goals and related evaluations.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.902 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Learning Communities Partnership shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of fifteen (15) members, as follows:

1. Eight members representing private foundations, businesses or corporate entities, two each to be appointed by the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and a statewide business organization; and

2. **EIGHT** members representing the public sector of state government as follows:

- a. the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
- b. the Director of Human Services,
- c. the State Commissioner of Health,
- d. the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health
and Substance Abuse Services,
- e. the Director of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth,
- f. the Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs, and
- g. the Administrator of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority,

H. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.

B. Representatives of private foundations, businesses or corporate entities shall serve initial terms as follows:

1. The members initially appointed by the Governor shall serve until November 1, 2000;
2. The members initially appointed by the statewide business organization shall serve until November 1, 2001;
3. The members initially appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve until November 1, 2002;

and

4. The members initially appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve until November 1, 2003.

C. As the terms of the initially appointed members expire, the terms of subsequently appointed members shall expire every four (4) years on November 1.

D. 1. A vacancy in a position shall be filled in the same manner as provided in subsection A of this section.

2. A majority of the members of the Partnership shall constitute a quorum. Any action of the Partnership must be approved by a majority of the members present.

3. Members appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

4. The Partnership shall act in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.903 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Learning Communities Partnership shall have the powers and duties to:

1. Provide state-level public and private leadership to:

- a. promote and achieve blending of the contributions of the private sector and communities with state government funds,
- b. encourage participation by major private foundations, corporations and businesses and encourage the use and provision of state funds as an incentive and aid for mobilization and organization of local resources,
- c. facilitate the effective coordination and collaboration of services provided by state agencies and communities to meet the needs of the people in every area of the state,
- d. provide training, technical assistance and information on the use of creative collaboration, effective model programs and ways to overcome barriers to effective services for children and families, and
- e. provide a model of effective agency behavior that assists communities to sustain changes that result from the activities of the Partnership;

2. Promote the Partnership vision and articulate benchmarks and priorities to:

- a. focus community collaboration activities,

- b. provide criteria for review, negotiation and approval of community plans,
- c. serve as a basis to choose effective collaborative service designs, and
- d. measure community program effectiveness;

3. Garner financial support for Partnership projects by:

- a. leveraging state and national private charitable and corporate resources,
- b. coordinating a process to maximize receipt and effective use of state administered federal funds, and
- c. facilitate financing and coordination of state-funded services;

4. Provide and coordinate training and technical assistance for community capacity building to:

- a. facilitate community readiness and mentor the collaboration process,
- b. collect data and assess resources, assets and needs,
- c. develop local governance structures,
- d. fill knowledge gaps in specific content areas,
- e. develop effective community plans,
- f. utilize innovative financial strategies, and
- g. implement local systems change and integrated service strategies;

5. Facilitate cross agency efforts to:

- a. coordinate state planning services and financing,
- b. remove state regulatory and policy barriers to effective services for children and families,
- c. design alternative eligibility standards and flexible program administration,
- d. secure appropriate waivers of federal rules and regulations,
- e. facilitate coordinated or multiagency invitations to bid or requests for proposals, and
- f. reduce duplication and promote efficiency and cost effectiveness;

6. Develop standards for financial management to:

- a. streamline reporting, claiming, and auditing requirements,
- b. guide the process for awarding, managing or revoking contracts with communities,
- c. make funding decisions that reflect and are consistent with the vision and purpose of the Partnership, and

- d. receive and sustain financing for Partnership activities; and

7. Support improved and coordinated information sharing to:

- a. reduce duplication of effort, improve service delivery and allow tracking of specific benchmarks for children,
- b. support improved services to children and families and analysis of policy options, and
- c. evaluate effectiveness of Partnership activities and community programs.

B. 1. The Partnership shall have the authority to use its resources to employ staff or to enter into an agreement with the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth to provide staff. Such staff shall have the training and experience necessary to administer the Partnership and carry out its functions.

2. The Partnership may appoint advisory committees as necessary to assist the Partnership with the performance of its duties or to provide the Partnership with expertise in technical matters.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 1999.