

An Act relating to schools; stating title of act; creating the Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Program; stating purpose of the act; stating eligibility requirements for participating in the Program; stating requirements for maintaining eligibility in the Program; directing the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to promulgate certain rules; stating legislative intent concerning implementation of the Program; providing for payment of enrollment fees; limiting payment of enrollment fees to certain number of semesters; providing for payment of awards without limitations; allowing the Regents to make awards based on need in certain circumstances; allowing the Regents to consider certain other awards; amending Sections 1 and 2, Chapter 251, O.S.L. 1998 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Sections 11-103.2c and 11-103.2d), which relate to certificates of distinction; changing name to diploma of honor; modifying criteria for a diploma of honor; requiring courses to meet certain specifications; deleting application of vocational courses; requiring students to meet or exceed certain coursework criteria for graduation; allowing certain vocational classes to qualify; defining a unit; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 1210.508, as last amended by Section 25, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 1998 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1210.508), which relates to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act; requiring remediation for students who do not perform on the mathematics portion of the tests; stating means of remediation; prohibiting certain instruction from being counted in school year; requiring certain mathematics teachers to have certain certification; allowing teachers certain time to obtain certification; stating legislative intent to establish a continuing education program for teachers; stating amount and purpose of the program; authorizing the State Board of Education to award grants to schools for increased test scores; directing the Board to promulgate rules establishing criteria; stating use of the award monies; amending Section 3, Chapter 181, O.S.L. 1997, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 350, O.S.L. 1998 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 6-204.2), which relates to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; raising bonus amount; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 698.2, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 232, O.S.L. 1992 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 698.2), which relates to the program for forgivable loans; limiting program to certain students; modifying qualified subject areas; deleting assistance for minority students; providing time period for loan forgiveness; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 18-124, which relates to administrative expenditure limitations; deleting obsolete language; encouraging school sites to limit certain expenditures; requiring an arresting officer to notify the school upon arrest of certain persons; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 1210.553, which relates to pilot projects for extended-day programs; clarifying contingency; clarifying authorization to make grant awards; amending Section 44, Chapter 247, O.S.L. 1996, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 1997 and Section 1, Chapter 348, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Sections 1210.568 and 1210.569), which relate to alternative education; requiring schools to expand alternative education programs to middle school grades; requiring certain identified schools to expand alternative education to elementary school grades; directing schools to expand the annual student needs assessment and plan to include certain students; stating legislative intent to provide funding for elementary level school counselors; providing preference for funding; amending Section 4, Chapter 350, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 24-101.4), which relates to disclosure of disciplinary records; modifying requirement that school districts retain, transfer and forward disciplinary records; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 6-114, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 241, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 6-114), which relates to the discipline of students; authorizing the board of education to adopt a dress code; providing standards for a dress code; clarifying authority to adopt a uniform dress code; directing school districts to distribute economically disadvantaged pupil weight State Aid to certain schools; creating the Education Choice Act;

providing for transfer of students; allowing transfer of siblings; limiting number of transfers in a year; providing for automatic transfer in certain circumstances; providing for continuation of a transfer when the student changes residence; providing for validity of certain transfers; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 8-103, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 232, O.S.L. 1994 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 8-103), which relates to student transfer procedures; deleting certain application and approval requirements; modifying certain approval procedures; authorizing denial of transfer in certain circumstances; requiring approval of transfers for children with disabilities; prohibiting certain extramural competition for a certain period; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 9-101, which relates to transportation of students; allowing receiving districts to provide transportation to transferred students in a certain area; creating the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act; stating purpose of the act; providing for application of the act; providing definition; requiring written application; providing for content of proposal; listing entities which may apply for a charter school; prohibiting private schools from applying; providing for sponsorship of a charter school; limiting location of charter school; providing application procedure; providing appeal process; providing for certain notification; requiring certain contract for charter schools; stating required provisions of contract; prohibiting employment contract until certain time; providing for certain provision in the employment contract; requiring certain disclosure; requiring certain surety bond; requiring adoption of a charter; listing certain requirements a charter school shall comply with; providing for amendment to charter; prohibiting certain actions by a charter school; providing for term of contract; providing for renewal or termination of contract; providing for enrollment of students in certain circumstances; prohibiting termination of certain employees; prohibiting unlawful reprisal against certain employees; defining unlawful reprisal; providing for retention of certain rights and benefits for certain teachers; providing for reemployment preference; providing for enrollment of students in a charter school; allowing certain limited enrollment; stating certain enrollment criteria; providing for designation of certain geographic areas for limited enrollment; prohibiting certain limits on admission; providing for transportation of students; allowing certain funding for transporting students; requiring certain information regarding transportation; providing for funding to the charter school; stating revenues a charter school will receive; providing method for determining average daily membership; allowing charter schools to receive certain funds; creating the Charter Schools Stimulus Fund; stating purpose of Fund; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt certain rules; requiring the State Board of Education to issue annual report; requiring charter schools to report certain information to the Office of Accountability; repealing 70 O.S. 1991, Sections 8-102, as amended by Section 34, Chapter 239, O.S.L. 1993 and 8-104, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 343, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Sections 8-102 and 8-104), which relate to transfers of students; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.