

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1595

By: Eddins

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Section 18-108, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 220, O.S.L. 1994 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 18-108), which relates to kindergarten programs; deleting provisions for admittance of underage children in kindergarten; allowing school districts to contract for certain classroom space; creating the Full-Day Kindergarten Support Program; stating purpose; providing certain appropriation for funding; providing for grants to school districts based on certain criteria; specifying expenditures of certain money; prohibiting certain expenditures; providing for codification; 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 18-108, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 220, O.S.L. 1994 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 18-108), is amended to read as follows:

Section 18-108. It is the ~~intention~~ intent of the Legislature to provide a free public kindergarten for every five-year-old child in this state.

1. Each day during which a child attends a kindergarten for two and one-half hours or more shall be counted as one hundred percent (100%) of one (1) day of average daily attendance. Each day a kindergarten student is on the membership roll in a school district shall be counted as one hundred percent (100%) of one (1) day of average daily membership.

2. It shall be the duty of every school district in this state to provide and offer kindergarten free of tuition for every child residing in such district who attains the age of five (5) years on or before the first day of September during the school year such

kindergarten is offered ~~or who is underage and is admitted to~~
~~kindergarten classes as provided for in Section 1-114 of this title,~~
provided that this duty may be satisfied by transferring
kindergarten children to other school districts which accept them
and provide kindergarten for such children, or by contracting for
classroom space with a licensed public or private child care
provider based upon selection criteria established by the district.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 18-108.1 of Title 70, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. It is the intent of the Legislature to support school
districts that offer full-day kindergarten programs, consisting of
six (6) hours per school day.

B. There is hereby created the Full-Day Kindergarten Support
Program to assist school districts that provide full-day
kindergarten programs. Initial funding for this purpose shall
consist of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) or an amount
appropriated by the Legislature for fiscal year 2000. Grants shall
be allocated by the State Board of Education to school districts
based upon criteria established by the State Department of Education
including the total number of children enrolled in full-day
kindergarten in that district during the first nine (9) weeks of the
current school year. Funding provided in the grants shall be
expended for instruction-related personnel, equipment,
transportation, and materials. No funds provided shall be used for
construction of buildings.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

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.

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