

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 701

By: Leftwich and Wilcoxson of
the Senate

and

McCarter, Roberts and
Braddock of the House

An Act relating to schools; requiring State Board of Education to adopt rules to allow district boards of education to except certain transfer students from out of state from certain high school graduation requirements; requiring district boards of education to make certain report to State Department of Education; creating Oklahoma Social Studies Stimulus Program; stating purpose; authorizing State Board of Education to award certain grants and establish criteria; requiring certain report and evaluation; and providing for codification.

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 11-103.6f of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

On or before September 1, 2002, the State Board of Education shall adopt rules to ensure that students who transfer into an Oklahoma school district from out of state after the student's junior year of high school shall not be denied, due to differing graduation requirements, the opportunity to be awarded a standard diploma.

The rules shall allow district boards of education to make exceptions on an individual student basis to the high school graduation requirements of Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes for such students who would be unable to meet the specific graduation requirements without unreasonably extending the date of graduation.

Each district board of education granting such exceptions shall report the number of students granted and reasons for exceptions to the State Department of Education on or before July 1 of each year.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.705 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the "Oklahoma Social Studies Stimulus Program" to be administered by the State Department of Education. The purpose of the program is to provide incentives to encourage innovative ways of educating students through the social studies and to prepare students to become active, engaged participants in the democratic process.

B. Contingent upon the provision of appropriated funds designated for the Oklahoma Social Studies Stimulus Program, the State Board of Education is authorized to award grants to teachers, school sites or school districts, based on criteria established by the State Department of Education that are consistent with the purposes of this act for social studies related purposes that may include, but are not limited to: class projects, field trips, materials and equipment, development of curriculum, professional development, and workshops.

C. The State Department of Education shall require an evaluation of each grant award and shall submit an annual report and evaluation of the Oklahoma Social Studies Stimulus Program to the education committee members of the State Senate and the House of Representatives and to the Governor no later than July 31 of each year.

Passed the Senate the 21st day of May, 2002.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of May, 2002.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

