

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 129

By: Helton

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools and soldiers and sailors; authorizing school districts to grant a high school diploma to certain veterans; stating eligibility requirements; directing State Board of Education to consult with Department of Veterans Affairs in adopting rules; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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 24-153 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. In order to recognize and pay tribute to veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II, a board of education of any independent school district in this state is hereby authorized to grant a diploma of graduation to any such veteran who meets the requirements as listed in subsection B of this section. School districts are further encouraged to present such diplomas in conjunction with appropriate Veterans Day programs.

B. To be eligible for a high school diploma pursuant to this act, a veteran shall:

1. Have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States of America;

2. Have served a minimum of eighteen (18) consecutive months' active duty between the dates of September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946, or have been discharged with a service-connected disability; and

3. Be able to establish residency in the State of Oklahoma at the time of entry into the military service.

C. The State Board of Education shall consult with the Department of Veterans Affairs in adopting rules to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

SECTION 3. 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.

48-1-83

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