

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

SENATE BILL 1610

By: Williams

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; creating the Meeting the Education Reform Challenge Task Force Act; providing short title and stating purpose; creating task force and providing for appointment of members; establishing qualifications for appointed members; establishing power of designees; establishing quorum requirements; providing for reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring State Department of Education to provide assistance; requiring certain report; providing for noncodification; 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 not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. Sections 1 through 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the "Meeting the Education Reform Challenge Task Force Act".

B. It is the finding of the Oklahoma Legislature that the state has a substantial interest in meeting the challenge of complying with sweeping recent federal reforms to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The reforms provide Oklahoma with an opportunity to meet new, high standards of achievement and create a system of accountability while providing the state with new funding for education.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby established until January 31, 2003, the Task Force on Meeting the Education Reform Challenge.

B. The task force shall be composed of fifteen (15) members as follows:

1. Three persons appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and shall serve as co-chair of the task force;

2. Three persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the House of Representatives and shall serve as co-chair of the task force;

3. Three persons appointed by the Governor;

4. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction;

5. The Secretary of Education;

6. The Chancellor of Higher Education;

7. The Director of the State Department of Career and Technology Education;

8. The Chair of the Oklahoma Commission on Teacher Preparation;
and

9. The Chair of the Education Oversight Board.

C. Appointed and designated members of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing or designating authorities. A vacancy in a position shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment or designation.

1. The appointed members shall have experience in areas related to children, education or state and federal relations.

2. An appointed member may appoint a designee who shall have authority to speak and vote as the representative of the appointed member. An appointed member making a designation shall notify the co-chairs of the task force in writing as to the name of the designee.

D. A majority of the appointed members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

E. Members shall receive no compensation for their service on the task force but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

2. Nonlegislative members who are state officers or employees shall be reimbursed by their respective agencies for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act; and

3. Members who are not legislators or officers or employees of the state shall be reimbursed by their appointing authority in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

F. The State Department of Education shall provide information and assistance as requested by the task force.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. On or before January 31, 2003, the task force shall prepare and report on specific recommendations for meeting the challenge of compliance with the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as enacted by House Resolution No. 1 of the 107th Congress, P.L. No. 107-110. The report and recommendations shall be submitted in writing to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor. The report shall include recommendations for any necessary and appropriate legislation.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2002.

SECTION 5. 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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