

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
HOUSE BILL NO. 1704

By: Coody, Jones, Blackwell,
Wright, Sullivan, Dank,
Peterson (Pam) and
Wesselhoft of the House

and

Lawler and Corn of the
Senate

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.229-6, which relates to character education programs; modifying provisions for school districts to develop and implement character education programs; clarifying statutory language; directing the State Board of Education to develop and provide certain services through an Internet web site; directing the Board to award certain grants for character education pilot projects; making grants subject to funding; stating purpose of pilot projects; providing for certain costs; directing the Board to establish criteria and a process; directing the Board to promulgate rules; 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. 2001, Section 1210.229-6,
is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.229-6 A. ~~The local school boards~~ board of
education of the every school districts of district in this state
may develop and implement, at the beginning of the ~~1999-2000~~ 2006-
2007 school year, a comprehensive program for character education in
grades kindergarten through ~~sixth~~ twelfth. ~~This program of The~~
character education program shall focus on ~~students'~~ development of
character traits, ~~the kind and manner found in available curriculum~~
in students. The program of character education may include, but

shall not be limited to, the voluntary reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

B. The State Board of Education shall ~~be~~ develop and make available to all school districts ~~with necessary technical~~ through an Internet web site, the following:

1. Technical assistance upon request of a school district;

2. A list of character education programs, curricula, and materials which may be used by school districts;

3. A character education honor roll that will recognize school districts that have successfully implemented a comprehensive school-district-wide program of character education and will highlight the positive impacts the program has had on each school or school district; and

4. A character education reading list of books that may include, but is not limited to, books that illustrate models of good character and books that relate to the development of good character traits that may be used by schools in a character education program.

C. Subject to the availability of funding, the State Board of Education may award grants to ten school districts for the establishment of pilot projects which will implement a comprehensive character education program in the school district. The amount of each grant shall be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The projects shall be innovative programs that will serve as models for other school districts. Funding may cover the cost of purchasing curriculum, materials, or training teachers. The Board shall determine pilot project criteria and establish a process for the consideration of proposals. The proposals for pilot projects shall be considered on a statewide competitive basis. The Board shall promulgate rules for the operation of the projects.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2005.

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.

50-1-7521 KB 05/18/05