

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2367

By: Kern

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-111, as last amended by Section 81, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 1-111), which relates to a school day; allowing absent students who are participating in an academic excellence program to be counted as in attendance; limiting length of absence; 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 1-111, as last amended by Section 81, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 1-111), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-111. A. A school day shall consist of not less than six (6) hours devoted to school activities, except that a school day for nursery, early childhood education, kindergarten, extended day program, and alternative education programs shall be as otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of Education. Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period.

B. Students absent from school in which they are regularly enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or to participate in a remote Internet-based course approved by the

district board of education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to provide for the implementation of remote Internet-based courses.

C. Students absent from school in which they are regularly enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for such absence is as a result of an award earned for academic achievement and such attendance awards are an element of an academic excellence program implemented by the school district. In order to be considered as being in attendance the student shall not be absent for more than five (5) hours during one (1) school day per week.

D. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and procedures that conform to rules for Internet-based courses as adopted by the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria for approval of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a particular student, authorization for full-time students to enroll in Internet-based courses, and establishing fees or charges. No district shall be liable for payment of any fees or charges for any Internet-based course for a student who has not complied with the district's policies and procedures. Districts shall require students enrolled in Internet-based courses to participate in the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act. Students participating in Internet-based courses from a remote site will be responsible for providing their own equipment and Internet access, unless the district chooses to provide the equipment. Credit may not be granted for such courses except upon approval of the State Board of Education and the district board of education.

~~D.~~ E. The school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6) hours devoted to school activities.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.

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.

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