

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2979

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-114.1, which relates to foreign exchange students; deleting option to accept exchange students on certain visas; establishing requirement for school districts to accept or contract for educational services for exchange students on certain visas; providing for counting exchange students in average daily membership; 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 1-114.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-114.1 A. Unless otherwise prohibited by federal law, school districts may:

1. Only have to accept exchange students on J-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (J) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, which hold the sponsoring organization responsible;

2. Not have to accept exchange students on M-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (M) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, which are for vocational or nonacademic students ~~or F-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (F) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, which hold the school~~ responsible;

3. Use the governing regulations set by the United States Information Agency (USIA) for Exchange Visitor Programs as guidelines and standards for local schools;

4. Have the right to accept or reject any exchange student or sponsoring organization not adhering to the USIA regulations; and

5. Have the right to reject any exchange student if the student, legal custodian, or legal guardian is not a resident of the district.

B. A school district shall be required to either:

1. Accept exchange students on F-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (F) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, which hold the school responsible if the student, legal custodian, or legal guardian is a resident of the district. The exchange students shall be counted in the average daily membership of the school district; or

2. Contract with the school responsible for exchange students on F-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (F) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, to provide educational services to the exchange students. The exchange students shall not be counted in the average daily membership of the school district.

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.

50-2-8132

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