

3 Senate Bill No. 1669

4 SENATE BILL NO. 1669 - By: COFFEE of the Senate and SHUMATE of the
5 House.

6 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section
7 3-132, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 2007 (70
8 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 3-132), which relates to the
9 Oklahoma Charter Schools Act; authorizing sponsorship of
10 charter schools by federally recognized Indian tribes; and
11 providing an effective date.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3-132, as
14 amended by Section 1, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007,
15 Section 3-132), is amended to read as follows:

16 Section 3-132. A. The Oklahoma Charter Schools Act shall apply
17 only to charter schools formed and operated under the provisions of
18 the act. Charter schools shall be sponsored only as follows:

19 1. By a school district with an average daily membership of
20 five thousand (5,000) or more and which all or part of the school
21 district is located in a county having more than five hundred
22 thousand (500,000) population according to the latest Federal
23 Decennial Census;

24 2. By a technology center school district only when the charter
25 school is located in a school district served by the technology
26 center school district and only if the local school district has an

1 average daily membership of five thousand (5,000) or more and which
2 all or part of the school district is located in a county having
3 more than five hundred thousand (500,000) population according to
4 the latest Federal Decennial Census; ~~or~~

5 3. By a comprehensive or regional institution that is a member
6 of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education only when the
7 charter school is located in a school district that has an average
8 daily membership of five thousand (5,000) or more and which all or
9 part of the school district is located in a county having more than
10 five hundred thousand (500,000) population according to the latest
11 Federal Decennial Census. In addition, the institution shall have a
12 teacher education program accredited by the Oklahoma Commission for
13 Teacher Preparation and have a branch campus or constituent agency
14 physically located within the school district in which the charter
15 school is located; or

16 4. By a federally recognized Indian tribe.

17 B. Charter schools formed pursuant to the act shall serve as a
18 pilot program to demonstrate the potential of expanding charter
19 schools to other parts of the state. Any charter or enterprise
20 school operating in the state pursuant to an agreement with the
21 board of education of a school district on July 1, 1999, may
22 continue to operate pursuant to that agreement or may contract with
23 the board of education of the school district pursuant to the

1 Oklahoma Charter Schools Act. Nothing in the Oklahoma Charter
2 Schools Act shall prohibit a school district from applying for
3 exemptions from certain education-related statutory requirements as
4 provided for in the Educational Deregulation Act.

5 C. Beginning January 1, 2008, not more than three new charter
6 schools shall be established each fiscal year in each county in the
7 state having more than five hundred thousand (500,000) population
8 according to the latest Federal Decennial Census. For purposes of
9 this subsection, a "new charter school" shall mean a charter school
10 proposed by an applicant that has never had a contract with a
11 sponsor.

12 D. For purposes of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, "charter
13 school" means a public school established by contract with a board
14 of education of a school district, an area vocational-technical
15 school district, or a higher education institution pursuant to the
16 Oklahoma Charter Schools Act to provide learning that will improve
17 student achievement and as defined in the Elementary and Secondary
18 Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. 8065.

19 E. A charter school may consist of a new school site, new
20 school sites or all or any portion of an existing school site. An
21 entire school district may not become a charter school site.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2008.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-11-08 - DO
24 PASS, As Coauthored.