

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 3375

By: Thomsen

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Section 16-102, which relates to selection of
9 textbooks; deleting obsolete language; requiring the
10 State Textbook Committee to adopt science textbooks
11 containing scientifically proven information;
12 requiring certain disclaimer in certain
13 circumstances; and providing an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 16-102, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 16-102. A. The State Textbook Committee shall meet at
18 the call of the chairperson as often as necessary, with two (2)
19 weeks' public notice, to discharge its responsibilities. Not later
20 than the first day of December of each year the State Textbook
21 Committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson at the State
22 Capitol and select textbooks for subjects taught in the public
23 schools of the state up to and including the twelfth grade, which
24 selections shall be for not more than six (6) years for every
textbook.

1 B. ~~From the effective date of this act until December 31, 1993,~~
2 ~~the Committee may extend by up to two (2) years the five year~~
3 ~~adoption period of those textbooks currently on the state adopted~~
4 ~~list, or provide for an interim adoption period of not to exceed~~
5 ~~three (3) years for textbooks for certain subjects, for the purpose~~
6 ~~of correlation with a six year adoption cycle or for restructure of~~
7 ~~the adoption cycle of subjects. "Textbooks", as used in Sections 16-~~
8 101 through 16-124 of this title, means instructional materials that
9 are designed for use by pupils as a learning resource.

10 Instructional materials may be printed or nonprinted and may include
11 textbooks, technology-based and other educational materials.

12 Technology-based materials do not include the equipment required to
13 make use of those materials.

14 C. ~~Said~~ The Committee shall select textbooks or series of
15 textbooks for each subject, which are in its judgment satisfactory.

16 The State Textbook Committee may determine that unusual or
17 extraordinary circumstances exist in a particular subject area
18 during the period for which textbooks have been selected for that
19 subject area. Unusual or extraordinary circumstances shall include
20 but not be limited to significant new techniques of teaching in a
21 particular subject area or significant new findings or discoveries
22 in a particular subject area. Upon a determination by three-fourths
23 (3/4) of the members of the State Textbook Committee that unusual or
24 extraordinary circumstances exist in a particular subject area, the

1 Committee may select one or more textbooks in that subject area for
2 the remainder of the adoption period.

3 D. Five or more school district boards of education may
4 petition the State Board of Education to add a book or series of
5 textbooks to the approved list selected by the State Textbook
6 Committee.

7 The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement
8 the method and time frame for handling ~~such~~ the petitions in the
9 most expeditious manner.

10 E. The State Textbook Committee shall adopt a textbook for the
11 science subject areas only if all the information, facts, data,
12 hypothesis, theories, or laws contained in the textbook has been
13 scientifically tested or, if not, the Committee shall provide a
14 disclaimer with the textbook indicating opposing scientific
15 evidence.

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

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