

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Monday, February 9, 2009

House Bill No. 1461

HOUSE BILL NO. 1461 - By: SEARS of the House and FORD of the Senate.

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.541, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 428, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 1210.541), which relates to student performance levels and accountability system; requiring certain schools identified as in need of improvement to utilize school support team assistance; specifying types of assistance to be provided to schools; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

1           SECTION 1.    AMENDATORY    70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.541, as amended by  
2    Section 3, Chapter 428, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 1210.541), is amended  
3    to read as follows:  
4           Section 1210.541 A. The State Board of Education shall determine and adopt a  
5    series of student performance levels for the criterion-referenced tests administered  
6    pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act, Section 1210.505 et seq. of this  
7    title. The performance levels shall be set by a method similar to that used for the  
8    achievement levels on the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The State  
9    Board of Education shall ensure that the criterion-referenced tests developed and  
10   administered pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act in grades three  
11   through eight are vertically aligned by content across grade levels to ensure consistency,

1 continuity, alignment and clarity. Student performance levels shall be labeled:  
2 advanced, satisfactory, limited knowledge, and unsatisfactory.

3 B. The State Board of Education shall develop and implement in accordance with  
4 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (ESEA), P.L. No. 107-110, also  
5 known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, an accountability system as provided for  
6 in 20 U.S.C., 6311 and any related federal regulations. The accountability system shall  
7 be implemented beginning with the 2002-2003 school year and shall be based on the  
8 Academic Performance Index data as established pursuant to Section 3-150 of this title  
9 and as modified to meet the mandates of the ESEA. For the 2002-2003 school year and  
10 every year thereafter the State Board of Education shall publish and ensure that each  
11 local education agency is provided with Academic Performance Index data annually by  
12 site and by district so that the local education agency can make Adequate Yearly  
13 Progress determinations to identify schools for rewards and sanctions. The State Board  
14 of Education shall establish a system of recognition, rewards, sanctions and technical  
15 assistance.

16 C. A school that does not make adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two (2)  
17 consecutive years, as AYP is defined by the accountability system developed by the State  
18 Board of Education pursuant to this section, because of failure to meet either an  
19 academic performance target or an attendance or graduation performance target, or both,  
20 and is identified for school improvement shall utilize the assistance of a school support  
21 team or other similar team formed by the State Department of Education to provide  
22 support for schools in need of improvement, subject to school support team capacity. The

1 school support team shall review and analyze all facets of operation of the school  
2 including the design and operation of the instructional program. The school support  
3 team shall assist the school in:

4 1. Incorporating strategies based on scientifically based research that will  
5 strengthen the core academic subjects in the school and address the specific academic  
6 issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement;

7 2. Incorporating strategies to promote high quality professional development; and

8 3. Training teachers to analyze classroom and school-level data and use the data to  
9 inform instruction.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

11 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public  
12 peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof  
13 this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

14 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 02-05-09  
15 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.