

**EHB 1479**

**THE STATE SENATE**  
**Wednesday, March 31, 2010**

**ENGROSSED**

**House Bill No. 1479**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1479 - By: Fields and Dorman of the House and Ivester of the Senate.

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 2, Chapter 290, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 3-155), which relates to the study and assessment of information and reports; modifying certain reporting dates; specifying certain content of study; allowing each local school district to study and assess ways to reduce information required of school district personnel; requiring input and participation from school district personnel; allowing each local school district to study and assess ways to reduce the number of tests required by students; requiring findings and recommendations to be included in Comprehensive Local Education Plan and forwarded to State Department of Education; providing for codification; providing an effective date; an declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 290, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 3-155), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-155. A. The State Board of Education shall study and assess ways to eliminate, reduce, consolidate, and simplify the number, type, and length of reports, data, statistics, and other information required of any school district or school district personnel by the Board or State Department of Education. Subject to the availability of funding, the Board is hereby authorized to

1 retain a consultant or expert as may be necessary to complete the  
2 study. The study shall include the feasibility of coordinating  
3 reporting dates and shall identify all requirements for maintaining,  
4 completing and filing records and reports mandated by law or rule  
5 and make recommendations for any amendments that may be necessary to  
6 the law or rules to implement the recommendations reported in the  
7 study. In conducting research for the study, the Board shall  
8 provide for the input and participation of school districts ~~and,~~  
9 school district personnel, and other educational organizations. By  
10 December 31, ~~2005~~ 2010, the Board shall issue a preliminary report  
11 of any findings and recommendations collected prior to that date.  
12 ~~Upon the availability of funding, the~~ The Board shall complete the  
13 findings and recommendations of the study and shall file a final  
14 report with the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
15 and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by December 31, 2012.

16 B. In conducting the study as required in this section, the  
17 Board may:

18 1. Survey a sample of classroom teachers from elementary,  
19 middle, and high school grades in the public schools in the state to  
20 determine the quantity and types of paperwork required from teachers  
21 on a daily, weekly, monthly, semester, or annual basis as mandated  
22 by state law or rule;

1        2. Review efforts being made at the school district level to  
2 reduce the requirements for extraneous paperwork placed on teachers;

3        3. Collaborate with the United States Department of Education  
4 to standardize all compliance requirements of the federal  
5 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and review and  
6 simplify the paperwork established by the United States Department  
7 of Education to verify compliance with IDEA; and

8        4. Study the amount of state and local funds expended to meet  
9 the compliance and paperwork requirements of IDEA.

10       SECTION 2.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-156 of Title 70, unless there  
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13       Each local school district may study and assess ways to  
14 eliminate, reduce, consolidate, and simplify the number, type, and  
15 length of reports, data, statistics, and other information required  
16 of any school district personnel by federal or state law. In  
17 conducting research for the study, the school district shall provide  
18 for the input and participation of school district personnel.

19       Each local school district may also study and assess ways to  
20 eliminate, reduce, consolidate, and simplify the number of tests  
21 required by students enrolled in school.

1 Findings and recommendations of both studies shall be included  
2 in the Comprehensive Local Education Plan of the school district and  
3 shall be forwarded to the State Department of Education.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2010.

5 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
6 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 3-29-10 - DO  
10 PASS.