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THE STATE SENATE
Thursday, February 19, 2009

Committee Substitute for
Senate Bill No. 1168

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1168 - By: Ford of the Senate and Coody of the House.

An Act relating to schools; creating the Legislative Task Force on Achieving Classroom Excellence; stating duties; providing for membership, appointment, designation of officers, quorum, staff support, and travel reimbursement; requiring report of findings and recommendations by certain deadline; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until November 30, 2009, the Legislative Task Force on Achieving Classroom Excellence. The task force shall conduct a comprehensive review of the Achieving Classroom Excellence Act of 2005 and subsequent amendments.

B. The task force shall study topics including, but not limited to, the following:

1. The requirements of the Achieving Classroom Excellence Act of 2005, as amended;

2. Possible alternative assessments and alternative methods for meeting the requirements of the Achieving Classroom Excellence Act of 2005, as amended;

- 1 3. Policies to reduce the high school drop-out rate;
- 2 4. Policies to enhance completion of the requirements for high
3 school graduation and increase postsecondary program enrollment and
4 completion; and
- 5 5. The potential of blending services offered by common
6 education, career and technology education, and higher education.
- 7 C. The task force shall consist of ten (10) members as follows:
- 8 1. The Chair of the Senate Committee on Education;
- 9 2. The Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Education;
- 10 3. The Chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
11 Education;
- 12 4. One member of the Senate Committee on Education, appointed
13 by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
- 14 5. One member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
15 Education, appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
- 16 6. The Chair of the House Committee on Common Education;
- 17 7. The Chair of the House Committee on Higher Education and
18 Career Tech;
- 19 8. The Chair of the House Appropriations and Budget
20 Subcommittee on Education;
- 21 9. One member of the House Committee on Common Education or the
22 House Committee on Higher Education and Career Tech, appointed by
23 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

1 10. One member of the House Appropriations and Budget
2 Subcommittee on Education, appointed by the Minority Leader of the
3 House of Representatives.

4 D. The Chair of the Senate Committee on Education shall serve
5 as the chair of the task force. Appointments to the task force
6 shall be made by July 1, 2009. Meetings of the task force shall be
7 held at the call of the chair of the task force. Members shall
8 serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. A majority
9 of the members of the task force shall constitute a quorum to
10 transact business, but no vacancy shall impair the right of the
11 remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the task force.
12 A vacancy on the task force shall be filled by the original
13 appointing authority. Staff support for the task force shall be
14 provided by the staff of the Senate and the House of
15 Representatives. The State Department of Education, Oklahoma
16 Department of Career and Technology Education, and the Oklahoma
17 State Regents for Higher Education shall provide support and
18 information as requested by the task force.

19 E. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for
20 serving on the task force, but shall receive travel reimbursement in
21 accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

22 F. The task force shall submit a report by November 30, 2009,
23 to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the

1 Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report shall include
2 findings and recommendations for any statutory or regulatory changes
3 necessary to improve the Achieving Classroom Excellence Act of 2005.

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

5 SECTION 3. 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 2-16-09 - DO
10 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.