

SB 497

1 THE STATE SENATE
2 Thursday, February 5, 2009

3 Senate Bill No. 497
4 As Amended

5 SENATE BILL NO. 497 - By: Paddock of the Senate and Mc Niel of the
6 House.

7 [schools - Oklahoma School Testing Program Act - effective
8 date]

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

10 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.508, as
11 last amended by Section 4, Chapter 289, O.S.L. 2006 (70 O.S. Supp.
12 2008, Section 1210.508), is amended to read as follows:

13 Section 1210.508 A. 1. The State Board of Education shall
14 develop and administer a series of criterion-referenced tests
15 designed to indicate whether the state academic content standards,
16 as defined by the State Board of Education in the Priority Academic
17 Student Skills Curriculum, which Oklahoma public school students are
18 expected to have attained have been achieved. The Board may develop
19 and administer any criterion-referenced test in any subject not
20 required by federal law, contingent upon the availability of
21 funding. Students who do not perform satisfactorily on tests shall
22 be remediated, subject to the availability of funding.

1 2. Contingent upon the availability of state and federal funds,
2 the Board, in accordance with federal law, shall administer
3 criterion-referenced tests for grades three and four in:

4 a. reading, and

5 b. mathematics.

6 3. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the Board shall
7 administer criterion-referenced tests for grade five in:

8 a. reading,

9 b. mathematics,

10 c. science,

11 d. social studies, which shall consist of the history,

12 Constitution and government of the United States, and

13 geography, and

14 e. writing of English.

15 4. Contingent upon the availability of state and federal funds,
16 the Board, in accordance with federal law, shall administer
17 criterion-referenced tests for grades six and seven in:

18 a. reading, and

19 b. mathematics.

20 In addition, the Board shall administer a criterion-referenced
21 test in geography in grade seven.

22 5. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the Board shall
23 administer criterion-referenced tests for grade eight in:

- 1 a. reading,
- 2 b. mathematics,
- 3 c. science,
- 4 d. social studies, which shall consist of the history,
- 5 Constitution, and government of the United States, and
- 6 e. writing of English.

7 The Board shall administer the tests for grade eight in reading
8 and mathematics online with raw score test results reported
9 immediately and complete results reported in less than two (2) weeks
10 beginning in the 2007-08 school year.

11 6. Each student who completes the instruction for English II,
12 English III, United States History, Biology I, Algebra I, Geometry,
13 and Algebra II at the secondary level shall complete an end-of-
14 instruction test, when implemented, to measure for attainment in the
15 appropriate state academic content standards in order to graduate
16 from a public high school with a standard diploma. All students
17 shall take the tests prior to graduation, unless otherwise exempt by
18 law. The State Board of Education shall administer the criterion-
19 referenced tests. The Board shall develop and field test the end-
20 of-instruction tests in English III, Geometry, and Algebra II during
21 the 2006-07 school year, implement the tests during the 2007-08
22 school year, and administer them each year thereafter. The Board
23 shall administer the multiple choice portion of the end-of-

1 instruction tests online with raw score test results reported
2 immediately and complete results reported in less than two (2) weeks
3 beginning in the 2008-09 school year.

4 The end-of-instruction tests shall serve the purpose of the
5 criterion-referenced tests as provided in paragraph 1 of this
6 subsection. The English II and English III end-of-instruction tests
7 shall include a writing component. Students who do not score at
8 least at the satisfactory level shall be afforded the opportunity to
9 retake each test up to three (3) times each calendar year until at
10 least achieving at the satisfactory level. In order to provide an
11 indication of the levels of competency attained by the student in a
12 permanent record for potential future employers and institutions of
13 higher education, for students who enter the ninth grade in or prior
14 to the 2007-08 school year, school districts shall report the
15 highest achieved state test performance level on the end-of-
16 instruction tests on the student's high school transcript.

17 Beginning with students who enter the ninth grade in the 2008-09
18 school year, school districts shall report the student's performance
19 levels of satisfactory and above on the end-of-instruction tests and
20 any business and industry-recognized endorsements attained on the
21 student's high school transcript. Any student at the middle school
22 level who completes the instruction in a secondary course specified

1 in this paragraph shall be administered the appropriate end-of-
2 instruction test.

3 7. a. Each school district shall administer to each student
4 in the school district in grades three through eight
5 an assessment designed to assess the student in the
6 fine arts area in which the student has received
7 instruction.

8 b. Each school district shall prepare an annual report
9 for approval by the State Board of Education outlining
10 the fine arts assessment strategies used by the
11 district, when the assessments were administered, how
12 many students were assessed during the previous year,
13 and the results of the assessments.

14 B. 1. All criterion-referenced tests required by this section
15 shall measure academic competencies in correlation with the state
16 academic content standards adopted by the Board pursuant to Section
17 11-103.6 of this title and known as the Priority Academic Student
18 Skills Curriculum. The State Board of Education shall evaluate the
19 academic content standards to ensure the competencies reflect high
20 standards, are specific, well-defined, measurable, challenging, and
21 will prepare elementary students for next-grade-level course work
22 and secondary students for postsecondary studies at institutions of
23 higher education or technology center schools without the need for

1 remediation in core curriculum areas. All state academic content
2 standards shall reflect the benchmarks of the American Diploma
3 Project and the goal of improving the state average ACT score.

4 2. The State Department of Education shall annually evaluate
5 the results of the criterion-referenced tests. The State Board of
6 Education shall ensure that test results are reported to districts
7 in a manner that yields detailed, diagnostic information for the
8 purpose of guiding instruction and student remediation. As
9 improvements are made to the criterion-referenced tests required by
10 this section, the Board shall seek to increase the depth of
11 knowledge assessed for each subject. The State Board of Education
12 shall seek to ensure that data yielded from the tests required in
13 this section are utilized at the school district level to prescribe
14 reinforcement and/or remediation by requiring school districts to
15 develop and implement a specific program of improvement based on the
16 test results.

17 3. The State Board of Education shall review, realign, and
18 recalibrate, as necessary, the tests in reading and mathematics in
19 third through eighth grade and the end-of-instruction tests. The
20 Board shall determine the cut scores for the performance levels on
21 the end-of-instruction tests developed pursuant to paragraph 6 of
22 subsection A of this section, which shall be phased in over a multi-
23 year period. The Board shall conduct an ongoing review to compare

1 the end-of-instruction test content and performance descriptors with
2 those of other states. Upon receipt of the review, the Board may
3 adjust the cut scores as necessary.

4 4. The State Board of Education, for the purposes of conducting
5 reliability and validity studies, monitoring contractor adherence to
6 professionally accepted testing standards, and providing
7 recommendations for testing program improvement, shall retain the
8 services of an established, independent agency or organization that
9 is nationally recognized for its technical expertise in educational
10 testing but is not engaged in the development of aptitude or
11 achievement tests for elementary or secondary level grades. These
12 national assessment experts shall annually conduct studies of the
13 reliability and validity of the end-of-instruction tests
14 administered pursuant to this section. Validity studies shall
15 include studies of decision validity, concurrent validity and the
16 validity of performance level cut scores.

17 C. 1. The State Board of Education shall set the testing
18 window dates for each criterion-referenced test required in
19 paragraphs 1 through 5 of subsection A of this section for grades
20 three through eight so that, with the exception of the writing
21 assessments, the tests are administered to students no earlier than
22 April 10 each year and so that the test results are reported back to
23 school districts in a timely manner. Each criterion-referenced test

1 required in paragraph 6 of subsection A of this section may be
2 administered to students at a time set by the State Board of
3 Education as near as possible to the end of the course. All results
4 and reports of the criterion-referenced test series required in
5 paragraphs 1 through 5 of subsection A of this section for grades
6 three through eight shall be returned to each school district prior
7 to the beginning of the next school year. The vendor shall provide
8 a final electronic data file of all school site, school district,
9 and state results to the Department and the Office of Accountability
10 prior to September 1 of each year. The Department shall forward the
11 final data files for each school district and each school site in
12 that district to the school district. The Board shall ensure the
13 contract with the testing vendor includes a provision that the
14 vendor report test results directly to the Office of Accountability
15 at the same time it is reported to the Board.

16 2. State, district, and site level results of all tests
17 required in this section shall be disaggregated by gender, race
18 ethnicity, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency,
19 and status as economically disadvantaged, except that such
20 disaggregation shall not be required in a case in which the number
21 of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically
22 reliable information or the results would reveal personally
23 identifiable information about an individual student. Each school

1 site shall notify the student's parents of the school's performance
2 levels in the Oklahoma School Testing Program as reported in the
3 Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program at the end of each school
4 year.

5 D. The State Board of Education shall be responsible for the
6 development, field-testing, and validation of the criterion-
7 referenced test series required in subsection A of this section. In
8 the interest of economy the Board shall adapt criterion-referenced
9 tests that have been developed by or in collaboration with other
10 states or are otherwise commercially available, or portions of such
11 tests, to the extent that such tests are appropriate for use in the
12 testing program to be administered to Oklahoma students.

13 E. The Board shall develop, administer, and incorporate as a
14 part of the Oklahoma School Testing Program, other testing programs
15 or procedures, including appropriate accommodations for the testing
16 of students with disabilities as required by the Individuals with
17 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 USC, Section 1400 et seq.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-2-09 - DO PASS,
20 As Amended and Coauthored.