

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 HOUSE BILL 2754

By: Fields

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; allowing the State Board  
8 of Education to grant emergency exemptions;  
9 authorizing emergency exemptions upon determination  
10 of a financial crisis; defining a financial crisis;  
11 authorizing the Board to define additional criteria  
12 for a financial crisis; providing for individual  
13 school site, school district, or statewide emergency  
14 exemptions; specifying an application process;  
15 providing certain criteria for emergency exemption  
16 from statutory requirements; prohibiting exemptions  
17 from certain requirements; establishing term of  
18 exemption; providing for certain review; allowing  
19 continuation of term of exemption; providing for  
20 codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-129 of Title 70, unless there  
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. In addition to granting exemptions as provided for in the  
Educational Deregulation Act, the State Board of Education may grant  
emergency exemptions to any or all school districts from any

1 education-related statutory requirement which the Board determines  
2 is necessary.

3 B. The Board may grant emergency exemptions upon a  
4 determination by the Board that a school district or all school  
5 districts in the state are experiencing a financial crisis. For  
6 purposes of this section, a financial crisis shall mean a school  
7 district or all school districts in the state have a reduction in  
8 total revenue of ten percent (10%) or more from the preceding fiscal  
9 year. The Board may establish additional criteria for defining a  
10 financial crisis as deemed necessary.

11 C. The Board may grant an emergency exemption on an individual  
12 school site basis or a school district-wide basis or may grant a  
13 statewide emergency exemption for all school districts in the state.  
14 Individual school site or school district emergency exemptions shall  
15 be granted upon application by the school district. Statewide  
16 emergency exemptions may be initiated by application of five or more  
17 school districts or upon the initiative of the Board.

18 D. An emergency exemption from any education-related statutory  
19 requirement may be granted if the Board determines that the  
20 requirement is affecting the ability of a school district to  
21 maintain effective educational programming during the financial  
22 crisis. A school district or school site shall not be granted an  
23 emergency exemption from any federal education-related requirements,  
24 health and safety provisions, teacher salary, retirement or health

1 insurance requirements, the Oklahoma School Testing Program, and the  
2 Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program.

3 E. Emergency exemptions shall be granted for no longer than one  
4 (1) year. The Board shall review each emergency exemption that has  
5 been granted prior to expiration to determine if a financial crisis  
6 still exists and if the exemption shall be extended for one (1)  
7 additional year. The Board may extend an emergency exemption more  
8 than one time, as long as a financial crisis exists.

9 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
10 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
11 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
12 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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