

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE BILL 834

By: Ford

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; establishing the School
8 District Empowerment Program; stating purpose;
9 exempting certain districts from certain statutory
10 requirements and rules; specifying certain
11 requirement; identifying districts for participation
and implementation of program; specifying method of
selection of remaining districts and timeline for
implementation; providing for codification; and
providing an effective date.

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

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

18 A. There is hereby established the School District Empowerment
19 Program which shall be administered by the State Board of Education.
20 The purpose of the program is to empower locally elected school
21 board members to govern school districts and make decisions based on
22 the needs of their students and circumstances.

23 B. A school district identified by the State Board of Education
24 for participation in the School District Empowerment Program shall

1 be exempt from all statutory requirements and State Board of
2 Education rules from which charter schools are exempt as provided
3 for in the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, except that the district
4 shall continue to be required to enroll all students who are
5 residents of the school district.

6 C. School districts which include a school that has been
7 identified for school improvement for the 2009-2010 school year by
8 the State Board of Education pursuant to the Elementary and
9 Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.,
10 shall be identified for participation in the School District
11 Empowerment Program and shall implement the program beginning in the
12 2010-2011 school year.

13 D. 1. By September 30, 2010, the State Board of Education
14 shall randomly select twenty percent (20%) of districts from each of
15 the following categories for implementation during the 2011-2012
16 school year:

17 a. districts with an Average Daily Membership (ADM) of
18 less than two hundred fifty (250),

19 b. districts with an ADM of less than five hundred (500)
20 and greater than or equal to two hundred fifty (250),

21 c. districts with an ADM of less than two thousand
22 (2,000) and greater than or equal to five hundred
23 (500), and

24 d. districts with an ADM of two thousand (2,000) or more.

1 2. The selection of districts as directed by this subsection
2 shall:

- 3 a. occur during open meetings of the Board,
- 4 b. occur each year thereafter, for implementation by the
5 districts selected during the following school year,
6 until all districts have been selected to implement
7 the program, and
- 8 c. be applicable to the number of districts in each
9 category as of September 30, 2010, to allow for all
10 districts to be selected by September 30, 2014.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 2009.

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