

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 9, 2012

3 As Amended

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE

5 BILL NO. 2641

6 By: Denney and Williams of the
7 House

8 and

9 Halligan of the Senate

10 [schools - family and societal issues on students -
11 student counseling - counseling curriculum - Office
12 of Juvenile Affairs to identify an evidence-based
13 counseling curriculum - subject to funding -
14 effective date -

15 emergency]

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.241 of Title 70, unless
19 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. The Legislature recognizes that many students are dealing
21 with family and societal issues that make it difficult or impossible
22 for them to be successful students. Among other school-based
23 counseling programs, designated youth services agencies provide
24 counseling for those students. To assure the quality and
availability of the counseling services, the Legislature finds that
it is desirable that school districts have access to individual and
group counseling using an evidence-based counseling curriculum to

1 prevent self-defeating, destructive or disruptive behavior. The
2 curriculum may include training in problem solving, anger
3 management, grief counseling, responsibility, communication and
4 decision-making skills.

5 B. In order to assure the ability of school districts to give
6 their students the best opportunity for academic and personal
7 success, subject to the availability of funds, the Office of
8 Juvenile Affairs, together with the Oklahoma Association of Youth
9 Services, shall identify an evidence-based counseling curriculum.
10 Subject to the availability of funds, the Office of Juvenile
11 Affairs, through designated Youth Services Agencies, shall make the
12 identified evidence-based counseling available to students in school
13 districts.

14 C. For purposes of this section, "evidence-based" means a
15 program or practice that has had multiple-site randomized controlled
16 trials across heterogeneous populations demonstrating that the
17 program or practice is effective for the population.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

19 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 4-4-12 - DO
24 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.