

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 24, 2014

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 2921

By: Billy, Pittman, Sherrer,
Hoskin and Wesselhoft of
the House

5 and

6 Stanislawski and Brecheen
7 of the Senate

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9
10 An Act relating to schools; recognizing Native
11 American languages as a language art; authorizing the
12 teaching of Native American languages in public
13 schools; allowing Native American language classes to
14 count as certain credit; allowing certain qualified
15 teachers to teach Native American languages;
16 providing for codification; providing an effective
17 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.1a of Title 70, unless
21 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A Native American language is hereby recognized as a language
23 art and may be taught in the public schools of the state in
24 educational programs. Native American language classes taught in
the public schools may be counted by a public school in fulfilling
core curriculum requirements and shall be granted the same credit as

1 a world language. For the purposes of this section, Native American
2 languages may be taught in the public schools by:

3 1. Any qualified teacher who holds a valid traditional or
4 alternative Oklahoma teaching certificate; or

5 2. A teacher who holds a valid certificate in Native American
6 Languages issued by the State Board of Education and either
7 qualifies for an Alternative Placement Teaching Certificate or is
8 supervised by a teacher who is highly qualified in the content area
9 for the appropriate level of instruction.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2014.

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

15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
16 March 24, 2014 - DO PASS

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