

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

3 HOUSE BILL 2696

By: Johnson

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 5-110, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter
9 17, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2013, Section 5-110),
10 which relates to educational requirements for school
11 board members; exempting certain members from
12 requirement to complete educational requirements;
13 amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 5-110.1, as amended by
14 Section 2, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2012 (70 O.S. Supp.
15 2013, Section 5-110.1), which relates to continuing
16 education requirements; exempting certain members
17 from requirement to complete continuing education
18 requirements; and providing an effective date.

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

20 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 5-110, as
21 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 17, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp.
22 2013, Section 5-110), is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 5-110. A. A school district elector who is elected or
24 appointed to be a member of a school district board of education
prior to January 1, 2014, shall obtain instruction on education
issues in accordance with rules promulgated by the State Board of
Education. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, at
the time a school district elector files a notification and

1 declaration of candidacy for the office of school district board of
2 education membership or is appointed to be a member of a school
3 district board of education on or after January 1, 2014, the elector
4 shall agree and pledge in writing that, within fifteen (15) months
5 of election or appointment as a member of the district board of
6 education, the member will complete at least twelve (12) hours of
7 instruction on education issues in the following areas: school
8 finance; legal issues, which include but are not limited to
9 employment, due process, new laws, the Oklahoma Open Records Act and
10 the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; and duties and responsibilities,
11 which include but are not limited to special education and ethics,
12 of district board of education members. Each elector shall agree
13 and pledge in writing to complete at least one (1) hour of
14 instruction in school finance, one (1) hour of instruction in the
15 Oklahoma Open Records Act and the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and one
16 (1) hour of instruction in ethics. The remaining hours may be
17 satisfied by attending a two-day workshop to be held within the
18 state by the State Department of Education, by the Oklahoma
19 Department of Career and Technology Education, or by attending
20 workshops, seminars or classes which address the above-mentioned
21 subject matter, and which are sponsored by any organization approved
22 by the State Board of Education, including but not limited to
23 institutions of higher education. The State Board of Education
24 shall promulgate rules by which an organization or particular

1 courses offered by an organization may be approved for purposes of
2 fulfilling the instructional requirements set out in this section.

3 B. When an incumbent of a district board of education files a
4 notification and declaration of candidacy for reelection to the
5 district board of education, the member shall be required to agree
6 and pledge in writing that upon reelection the member will complete
7 six (6) hours of instruction, within fifteen (15) months of
8 election, including one (1) hour of instruction in school finance,
9 one (1) hour of instruction in the Oklahoma Open Records Act and the
10 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and one (1) hour of instruction in ethics.
11 The remaining hours may be satisfied by attending a workshop, class
12 or seminar addressing the education issues set forth in subsection A
13 of this section. This subsection shall not apply to a member who
14 has previously served a minimum of ten (10) years on a school
15 district board of education.

16 C. The State Department of Education shall, immediately after
17 the annual elections of various district board of education members,
18 determine the members of the district boards of education pledged to
19 complete the instructional requirements established in subsections A
20 and B of this section, and shall notify the members of the time and
21 place where workshops, classes and seminars are to be conducted.
22 Upon completion of the instructional requirements, the certificate
23 of completion shall be included in the public records of the school
24 board's minutes. Each school board member, except for an incumbent

1 member, shall be required within fifteen (15) months following or
2 preceding election to complete the workshop established by
3 subsection A of this section or to attend twelve (12) hours of other
4 state workshops, classes or seminars conducted as instruction on the
5 subjects of school finance, legal issues, and the ethics, duties and
6 responsibilities of district board of education members, including
7 at least one (1) hour of instruction in school finance, one (1) hour
8 of instruction in the Oklahoma Open Records Act and the Oklahoma
9 Open Meeting Act and one (1) hour of instruction in ethics.

10 D. If a school board member, including an incumbent member, has
11 not satisfied the instructional requirements as set forth in this
12 section within fifteen (15) months of election, reelection or
13 appointment, the district board of education shall declare the seat
14 of the member vacant and fill the vacancy according to law. A
15 school board member who is required to vacate a school board seat
16 pursuant to this subsection shall be ineligible to be reappointed or
17 to run for reelection to that respective board seat on the school
18 district board of education or to run for election to any other
19 board seat on the board of education for a three-year period for
20 three-member boards, for a four-year period for seven-member boards
21 or for a five-year period for five-member boards.

22 E. All government departments, agencies and institutions of
23 this state are directed to lend assistance as may be required by the
24 State Department of Education for the proper conduct and

1 administration of the workshops as authorized in subsection A of
2 this section. The State Department of Education shall maintain a
3 permanent record of each district board of education member who
4 successfully completes a workshop and shall issue a certificate of
5 completion to the member.

6 F. The State Department of Education, the Oklahoma Department
7 of Career and Technology Education, and, upon approval of the State
8 Board of Education, any organization or association representing
9 district boards of education in this state are authorized to charge
10 persons pledged to attend a workshop, class or seminar for purposes
11 of meeting the instructional requirements of this section, a
12 registration fee sufficient to defray the estimated costs of
13 presenting the workshop, class or seminar and to collect the fees at
14 the time of registration.

15 G. Any member of a district board of education or any
16 individual elected, certified as the elected member by the county
17 election board, but not sworn in and seated as a member of a
18 district board of education at the time of a workshop, class or
19 seminar presented by the State Board of Education, the Oklahoma
20 Department of Career and Technology Education, or an organization or
21 association representing district boards of education within the
22 state who attends and successfully completes a workshop, class or
23 seminar as required by subsection A or B of this section shall be
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1 reimbursed by the school district in accordance with the travel
2 reimbursement policy of the district.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 5-110.1, as
4 amended by Section 2, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2012 (70 O.S. Supp. 2012,
5 Section 5-110.1), is amended to read as follows:

6 Section 5-110.1 A. In addition to the requirements of Section
7 5-110 of this title, every member of a school district board of
8 education elected to a full term of office of five (5) years or more
9 shall be required to attend a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of
10 continuing education, each member elected to a full four-year term
11 of office shall be required to attend a minimum of twelve (12) hours
12 of continuing education, and each member elected to a full three-
13 year term of office shall be required to attend a minimum of nine
14 (9) hours of continuing education, prior to the date set for filing
15 for reelection to that respective board seat. The continuing
16 education courses, workshops, seminars, conferences, and conventions
17 which shall satisfy the continuing education requirement shall be
18 approved jointly by the State Department of Education and the
19 Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

20 B. Local and state continuing education programs conducted
21 pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be held in all
22 regions of the state at institutions of higher learning, area
23 technology centers or other approved sites. Notice of such courses
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1 and seminars shall be provided to all school board members and to
2 the public schools.

3 C. This section shall not apply to ~~those school board members~~
4 ~~who file for reelection prior to July 1, 1991~~ a member who has
5 previously served a minimum of ten (10) years on a school district
6 board of education.

7 D. Failure by a board member to satisfy the continuing
8 education requirements of this section shall result in the
9 ineligibility of the member to be reappointed or run for reelection
10 to that respective board seat on the school district board of
11 education or to run for election to any other board seat on the
12 board of education for a three-year period for three-member boards,
13 for a four-year period for seven-member boards or for a five-year
14 period for five-member boards.

15 E. The State Department of Education, the Oklahoma Department
16 of Career and Technology Education, and any organization approved by
17 the State Board of Education, including but not limited to
18 institutions of higher education, may charge persons attending
19 continuing education courses a registration fee sufficient to defray
20 the estimated costs of presenting the course. The registration fees
21 for each course shall be announced prior to the date of such course.

22 F. Any member of a school district board of education who
23 attends and completes a course which satisfies in part or in full
24 the requirements of this section shall be reimbursed by the school

1 district for expenses incurred. In addition, a school district
2 board of education may reimburse members of the board of education
3 for expenses incurred in registering and attending board member
4 training programs or activities approved by the board which are in
5 addition to the minimum school board training requirements
6 established by law.

7 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2014.

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