

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE BILL 1039

By: Smalley

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 3-104.4, as last amended by Section 1,
9 Chapter 311, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section
10 3-104.4), which relates to standards for
11 accreditation; directing the State Department of
12 Education to conduct certain review every four years;
13 allowing certain reviews at other times; providing an
14 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 3-104.4, as
17 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 311, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp.
18 2015, Section 3-104.4), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 3-104.4. A. On or before February 1, 1991, the State
20 Board of Education shall adopt standards for the accreditation of
21 the public schools in this state according to the requirements of
22 this act, to be effective as set forth in this act. The
23 accreditation standards shall incorporate the curricular standards
24 established pursuant to Section 11-103.6 of this title. The
25 accreditation standards shall equal or exceed the accreditation
26 standards for schools promulgated by the North Central Association

1 of Colleges and Schools to the extent that the standards are
2 consistent with an academic results oriented approach to
3 accreditation, excluding those standards which deal with affective
4 behavior to the extent the adoption of the standards does not
5 conflict with state statute. The accreditation adopted by the State
6 Board shall encompass accreditation for elementary schools, middle
7 schools, junior high schools, and high schools. The accreditation
8 standards shall be made available for public inspection at the
9 offices of the State Department of Education.

10 B. Standards for accreditation adopted by the State Board of
11 Education shall include standards relating to the provision of
12 school counselors to the public school children of this state. The
13 State Board of Education shall require each local school district to
14 provide information regarding the number of counselors serving each
15 school site, the duties of all such counselors including all
16 administrative duties, the number of students served by each
17 counselor, and information regarding the number of counselors
18 employed per elementary school, middle school, junior high school
19 and high school.

20 C. Except as otherwise provided by subsection A of this section
21 with regard to curricular standards, as a condition of receiving
22 state accreditation pursuant to this act:

23 1. High schools shall meet the accreditation standards not
24 later than June 30, 1995; and

1 2. Elementary, middle and junior high schools shall meet the
2 accreditation standards not later than June 30, 1999.

3 Schools shall thereafter continue to meet the accreditation
4 standards as a condition of continued accreditation. Nothing herein
5 shall be construed as preventing changes to the adopted standards by
6 the State Board of Education pursuant to the Administrative
7 Procedures Act.

8 D. The State Department of Education shall conduct an on-campus
9 Standards for Accreditation of Public Schools review for each school
10 district in the state not less than once every four (4) years, with
11 the exception of health and safety standards, which shall be
12 reviewed every year. The Department may visit any school campus for
13 an on-campus Standards for Accreditation of Public Schools review at
14 other additional times as determined necessary by the State
15 Superintendent of Public Instruction.

16 E. If one or more school sites fails to receive accreditation
17 as required pursuant to this section by the dates set forth in
18 subsection C of this section or subsequently loses accreditation,
19 the State Board of Education shall close the school and reassign the
20 students to accredited schools within the district or shall annex
21 the district to one or more other districts in which the students
22 can be educated in accredited schools.

23 ~~E.~~ F. State Board accreditation regulations shall provide for
24 warnings and for assistance to schools and school districts whenever

1 there is reason to believe a school is in danger of losing its state
2 accreditation.

3 ~~F.~~ G. The State Board shall provide assistance to districts in
4 considering the possibility of meeting accreditation requirements
5 through the use of nontraditional means of instruction. The State
6 Board shall also assist districts in forming cooperatives and making
7 arrangements for the use of satellite instruction or other
8 instructional technologies to the extent that use of such
9 instructional means meets accreditation standards.

10 ~~G.~~ H. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
11 2016, accreditation shall not be withdrawn from or denied nor shall
12 a penalty be assessed against a school or school district for
13 failing to meet the media materials and equipment standards and
14 media program expenditure standards as set forth in the
15 accreditation standards adopted by the Board.

16 ~~H.~~ I. The State Board shall not assess a financial penalty
17 against any school district which is given a deficiency in
18 accreditation status during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015,
19 and June 30, 2016. Accreditation shall not be withdrawn from or
20 denied, nor shall a penalty be assessed against, a school district
21 for complying with this section.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

23 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

3
4 55-2-2305 EB 2/18/2016 6:50:03 PM
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24