

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE JOINT  
4 RESOLUTION 75

By: Brecheen and Sykes

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Joint Resolution disapproving in part the subject  
8 matter standards submitted by the State Board of  
9 Education; sending standards back with instructions;  
10 providing instructions; amending Section 4, Chapter  
11 430, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 11-  
12 103.6a-1), which relates to legislative review of  
13 standards; directing the State Board of Education to  
14 submit certain standards in accordance with certain  
15 instructions within certain time period; providing  
16 method for the Legislature to approve subject matter  
17 standards; providing for submission of certain  
18 subject matter standards if certain time period is  
19 not met; providing for distribution; providing an  
20 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

21 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11-103.6a-1 of Title 70 of the  
22 Oklahoma Statutes, the Legislature reserves the right to review  
23 subject matter standards and approve the standards, disapprove the  
24 standards in whole or in part, amend the standards in whole or in  
25 part or disapprove the standards in whole or in part with  
26 instructions to the State Board of Education; and

27 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11-103.6a of Title 70 of the  
28 Oklahoma Statutes, the State Board of Education was required to  
29 compare the English language arts and mathematics standards adopted

1 by the State Board of Education on January 28, 2016, with the  
2 English language arts and mathematics standards that were in place  
3 prior to the revisions adopted by the State Board of Education in  
4 June 2010; and

5 WHEREAS, the English language arts and mathematics standards  
6 submitted by the State Board of Education to the Legislature on  
7 February 1, 2016, for approval do not reflect the full intent of the  
8 Oklahoma Legislature.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

11 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby disapproves in part the  
12 English language arts and mathematics standards which were adopted  
13 by the State Board of Education on January 28, 2016, because they do  
14 not reflect the full intent of the Oklahoma Legislature.

15 SECTION 2. The mathematics standards that were approved by the  
16 State Board of Education on January 28, 2016, are disapproved in  
17 part and are sent back to the State Board of Education with the  
18 following instructions:

19 A. The revised standards shall include exemplars, samples and  
20 examples to assist educators in developing their own curriculum. In  
21 the revised standards, it shall be made clear that the inclusion of  
22 exemplars, samples and examples shall not be interpreted to limit  
23 the creativity of teachers or the intended scope of the standards;  
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1       B. Similar objectives within the same grade shall not cause  
2 confusion on the level of student performance expected. The revised  
3 standards shall not have objectives that are duplicative or  
4 overlapping that cause confusion;

5       C. The revised standards shall have objectives that link  
6 directly to their associated standards and indicate skills leading  
7 up to the standards;

8       D. The revised standards provide focus, whereby topics support  
9 one another within a grade level, alignment of standards between  
10 grades or grade spans and progressions that are clear from one grade  
11 level to the next. An introductory statement for each grade level  
12 shall be provided to ensure connections are clear and absent any  
13 disconnectedness that creates a feeling of a piecemeal approach of  
14 the standards and their objectives, as well as between standards  
15 within a grade level and across grade levels within a grade band;

16       E. The revised standards and objectives shall not lack in  
17 rigor. The revised standards and objectives shall have a level of  
18 rigor that is consistent across grade bands. The standards and  
19 objectives shall maintain a balance between rigor and developmental  
20 appropriateness while containing relevance of content to the grade  
21 or subject;

22       F. The revised standards and objectives shall ensure that there  
23 are no grammar or word choices that may lead to mathematically  
24 imprecise interpretation and that verbs are used correctly to

1 clarify the level of rigor expected at each grade level with similar  
2 content. The verbs from one grade level shall not be a lower level  
3 than the verbs used in the prior grade or course;

4 G. The revised standards provide a suitable foundation for  
5 summative assessments with a balanced focus on formative and/or  
6 classroom level assessments. Additionally, the standards shall be  
7 revised in accordance with subsection H of Section 11-103.6a of  
8 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes to ensure that the subject matter  
9 standards are carefully circumscribed, constrained and confined to  
10 reflect direct application to subject matter proficiency and address  
11 psychometric considerations;

12 H. The revised standards and objectives shall consistently  
13 require that students learn and use the standard algorithms at the  
14 appropriate grade levels;

15 I. The revised standards and objectives shall clearly emphasize  
16 the important aspects of math skills and how to make them practical  
17 to everyday life;

18 J. The revised standards and objectives shall not require  
19 additional explanation and support for teachers to understand the  
20 expectation and depth of student performance expected to avoid the  
21 default minimum that could leave students unprepared for later  
22 learning;

23 K. The State Board of Education shall consult with the subject  
24 matter experts who were publicly identified and individually named

1 by the State Department of Education in its presentation to the  
2 Legislature on February 1, 2016, as reviewers. The State Board of  
3 Education shall consult with the identified subject matter experts  
4 who were individually named and who publicly identified deficiencies  
5 in the proposed standards between January 15, 2016, and March 15,  
6 2016, and resubmit the mathematics standards to the Legislature upon  
7 written response by the identified subject matter experts that the  
8 standards have been revised in accordance with the instructions  
9 outlined in subsections A through J of this section and whether the  
10 revised standards are of high quality and address the additional  
11 concerns publicly identified by the subject matter experts. The  
12 written response shall include the names of the subject matter  
13 experts who were consulted pursuant to this section. The written  
14 response shall be publicly posted on the State Department of  
15 Education's website and shall be submitted to members of the  
16 Legislature;

17 L. The State Board of Education shall submit to members of the  
18 Legislature an unbiased report comparing the standards resubmitted  
19 to the Legislature pursuant to this section with the standards that  
20 were in place prior to the revisions adopted by the State Board of  
21 Education in June 2010. No member of the standards writing team  
22 shall participate in or contribute to the comparison report. The  
23 report shall include a list of all contributors to the report with  
24

1 accompanying evidence proving their unbiased status. The report  
2 shall compare the standards in the areas of:

- 3 1. Effective preparation for active citizenship and  
4 postsecondary education or the workforce;
- 5 2. Subject matter content;
- 6 3. Sequencing of subject matter content and relationship to  
7 measurement of student performance and the application of subject  
8 matter standards;
- 9 4. Developmental appropriateness of grade-level expectations,  
10 academic content and instructional rigor;
- 11 5. Clarity for educators and parents;
- 12 6. Exemplars tied to the standards;
- 13 7. Measurability of student proficiency in the subject matter;
- 14 8. Pedagogy;
- 15 9. Development of critical thinking skills; and
- 16 10. Demonstration of application of acquired knowledge and  
17 skills; and

18 M. The State Board of Education shall submit a report to the  
19 members of the Legislature that provides evidence of its compliance  
20 with Sections 11-103.6 through 11-103.6a-1 of Title 70 of the  
21 Oklahoma Statutes.

22 SECTION 3. The English language arts standards that were  
23 approved by the State Board of Education on January 28, 2016, are  
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1 disapproved in part and are sent back to the State Board of  
2 Education with the following instructions:

3 A. The revised standards shall include exemplars, samples and  
4 examples to assist educators in developing their own curriculum. In  
5 the revised standards, it shall be made clear that the inclusion of  
6 exemplars, samples and examples shall not be interpreted to limit  
7 the creativity of teachers or the intended scope of the standards;

8 B. Similar objectives within the same grade shall not cause  
9 confusion on the level of student performance expected. The revised  
10 standards shall not have objectives that are duplicative or  
11 overlapping that cause confusion;

12 C. The revised standards shall have objectives that link  
13 directly to their associated standard and indicate skills leading up  
14 to the standards;

15 D. The revised standards shall provide focus, whereby topics  
16 support one another within a grade level, alignment of standards  
17 between grades or grade spans and progressions that are clear from  
18 one grade level to the next;

19 E. The revised standards and objectives shall not lack in  
20 rigor. The revised standards and objectives shall have a level of  
21 rigor that is consistent across grade bands. The standards and  
22 objectives shall maintain a balance between rigor and developmental  
23 appropriateness while containing relevance of content to the grade  
24 or subject;

1 F. The revised standards shall ensure that there are no grammar  
2 or word choices that may lead to imprecise interpretation and that  
3 verbs are used correctly to clarify the level of rigor expected at  
4 each grade level with similar content. The verbs from one grade  
5 level shall not be a lower level than the verbs used in the prior  
6 grade or course;

7 G. The revised standards provide a suitable foundation for  
8 summative assessments with a balanced focus on formative and/or  
9 classroom level assessments and can only reflect the technical  
10 capacity of the state. Additionally, the standards shall be revised  
11 in accordance with subsection H of Section 11-103.6a of Title 70 of  
12 the Oklahoma Statutes to ensure that the subject matter standards  
13 are carefully circumscribed, constrained and confined to reflect  
14 direct application to subject matter proficiency and address  
15 psychometric considerations;

16 H. The revised standards shall clearly emphasize the important  
17 literary skills, including reading, writing, speaking and listening  
18 aspects and how to make them practical to everyday life;

19 I. The subject matter standards for English language arts shall  
20 emphasize the study of complete works of literature;

21 J. The revised standards and objectives shall include  
22 developmental strands from grades kindergarten through twelve (12)  
23 for the major genres of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama and  
24 traditional literature with the assumption that the reading level



1 and complexity of texts increase as students advance to later  
2 grades. Specific exemplars of appropriate texts shall be provided;

3 K. The revised standards require students to become familiar  
4 with historically significant classical, British and American  
5 authors or texts that contributed to the development of the English  
6 language and its fiction, poetry, drama and nonfiction;

7 L. The revised standards require students to become familiar  
8 with significant texts, people, movements and events in Oklahoma's  
9 political, intellectual and literary history;

10 M. The revised standards require students to become familiar  
11 with America's founding and seminal political documents;

12 N. The revised standards and objectives shall not require  
13 additional explanation and support for teachers to understand the  
14 expectation and depth of student performance expected to avoid the  
15 default minimum that could leave students unprepared for later  
16 learning;

17 O. The State Board of Education shall consult with the subject  
18 matter experts who were publicly identified and individually named  
19 by the State Department of Education in its presentation to the  
20 Legislature on February 1, 2016, as reviewers. The State Board of  
21 Education shall consult with the identified subject matter experts  
22 who were individually named and who publicly identified deficiencies  
23 in the proposed standards between January 15, 2016, and March 15,  
24 2016, and resubmit the English language arts standards to the

1 Legislature upon written response by the identified subject matter  
2 experts that the standards have been revised in accordance with the  
3 instructions outlined in subsections A through N of this section and  
4 whether the revised standards are of high quality and address the  
5 additional concerns publicly identified by the subject matter  
6 experts. The written response shall include the names of the  
7 subject matter experts who were consulted pursuant to this section.  
8 The written response shall be publicly posted on the State  
9 Department of Education's website and shall be submitted to members  
10 of the Legislature;

11 P. The State Board of Education shall submit to members of the  
12 Legislature an unbiased report comparing the standards resubmitted  
13 to the Legislature pursuant to this section with the standards that  
14 were in place prior to the revisions adopted by the State Board of  
15 Education in June 2010. No member of the standards writing team  
16 shall participate in or contribute to the comparison report. The  
17 report shall include a list of all contributors to the report with  
18 accompanying evidence proving their unbiased status. The report  
19 shall compare the standards in the areas of:

20 1. Effective preparation for active citizenship and  
21 postsecondary education or the workforce;

22 2. Subject matter content;  
23  
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1        3. Sequencing of subject matter content and relationship to  
2 measurement of student performance and the application of subject  
3 matter standards;

4        4. Developmental appropriateness of grade-level expectations,  
5 academic content and instructional rigor;

6        5. Clarity for educators and parents;

7        6. Exemplars tied to the standards;

8        7. Measurability of student proficiency in the subject matter;

9        8. Pedagogy;

10       9. Development of critical thinking skills; and

11       10. Demonstration of application of acquired knowledge and  
12 skills; and

13       Q. The State Board of Education shall submit a report to the  
14 members of the Legislature that provides evidence of its compliance  
15 with Sections 11-103.6 through 11-103.6a-1 of Title 70 of the  
16 Oklahoma Statutes.

17       SECTION 4.        AMENDATORY        Section 4, Chapter 430, O.S.L.  
18 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 11-103.6a-1), is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20       Section 11-103.6a-1. A. All subject matter standards and  
21 revisions to the standards adopted by the State Board of Education  
22 pursuant to Section 11-103.6a of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
23 shall be subject to legislative review as set forth in this section.  
24 The standards shall not be implemented by the State Board of

1 Education until the legislative review process is completed as  
2 provided for in this section.

3 B. Upon adoption of any subject matter standards, the State  
4 Board of Education shall submit the adopted standards to the Speaker  
5 of the House of Representatives or a designee and the President Pro  
6 Tempore of the Senate or a designee prior to the last thirty (30)  
7 days of the legislative session.

8 C. 1. The State Board of Education shall submit the revised  
9 subject matter standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics  
10 adopted pursuant to Section 11-103.6 of this title and in accordance  
11 with the instructions prescribed in Sections 2 and 3 of this act to  
12 the Speaker of the House of Representatives or a designee and the  
13 President Pro Tempore of the Senate or a designee prior to the last  
14 thirty (30) days of the Second Session of the 55th Oklahoma  
15 Legislature.

16 2. By adoption of a joint resolution, the Legislature shall  
17 approve the revised standards submitted pursuant to this subsection.  
18 If the joint resolution is vetoed by the Governor in accordance with  
19 Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution and the veto  
20 has not been overridden, the revised standards shall be deemed  
21 disapproved. If the Legislature fails to adopt a joint resolution  
22 approving the revised standards submitted pursuant to this  
23 subsection by the conclusion of the Second Session of the 55th  
24

1 Oklahoma Legislature, the revised standards shall be deemed  
2 disapproved.

3 3. If the State Board of Education fails to submit the revised  
4 subject matter standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics,  
5 in accordance with the instructions prescribed in Sections 2 and 3  
6 of this act, by the conclusion of the Second Session of the 55th  
7 Oklahoma Legislature, the State Board of Education shall submit the  
8 revised standards to the Speaker of the House of Representatives or  
9 a designee and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or a designee  
10 prior to the last thirty (30) days of the First Session of the 56th  
11 Oklahoma Legislature. The Legislature shall take the actions  
12 prescribed in paragraph 2 of this subsection.

13 D. By adoption of a joint resolution, the Legislature shall  
14 approve the standards, disapprove the standards in whole or in part,  
15 amend the standards in whole or in part or disapprove the standards  
16 in whole or in part with instructions to the State Board of  
17 Education, provided that such joint resolution becomes law in  
18 accordance with Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma  
19 Constitution. If the joint resolution is vetoed by the Governor in  
20 accordance with Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma  
21 Constitution and the veto has not been overridden, the standards  
22 shall be deemed approved. If the Legislature fails to adopt a joint  
23 resolution within thirty (30) legislative days following submission  
24 of the standards, the standards shall be deemed approved.

1       ~~D.~~ E. If the subject matter standards are disapproved in whole  
2 or are disapproved in whole with instructions as provided for in  
3 this section, the State Board of Education may adopt new standards  
4 and submit the new standards for legislative review pursuant to this  
5 section. The State Board of Education shall continue to implement  
6 current standards in place until the new standards have been  
7 reviewed by the Legislature and approved as provided for in this  
8 section. If the subject matter standards are amended, approved in  
9 part or are disapproved in part with instructions, the State Board  
10 of Education may revise the standards in accordance with the  
11 legislative changes and implement the standards.

12       ~~E.~~ F. Upon final approval of the standards, the standards shall  
13 be considered final agency rules. The Board shall submit a copy of  
14 the standards to the Secretary of State, who shall include the  
15 standards in the publication known as the "Oklahoma Administrative  
16 Code" in the same manner as agency rules are published in the "Code"  
17 as provided for in the Administrative Procedures Act. All standards  
18 approved and published as provided for in this subsection shall have  
19 the same force and effect of law as agency rules promulgated  
20 pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.

21       ~~F.~~ G. Unless otherwise provided by specific vote of the  
22 Legislature, joint resolutions introduced for purposes of approving,  
23 disapproving, amending or disapproving with instructions any subject  
24 matter standards shall not be subject to regular legislative cutoff

1 dates, shall be limited to such provisions as may be necessary for  
2 approving, disapproving, amending or disapproving with instructions  
3 any subject matter standards and any such other direction or mandate  
4 regarding the standards deemed necessary by the Legislature. The  
5 joint resolution shall contain no other provisions.

6 SECTION 5. The Secretary of State is hereby directed to  
7 distribute copies of this resolution to the State Board of  
8 Education.

9 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

10 SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
11 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
12 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
13 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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