BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 55th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 711
Version: CCR A
Request Number: 1829
Author: Rep. Denney
Date: 5/21/2015
Impact: Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

SB 711 amends the section of law pertaining to the recommendation of a school district superintendent to dismiss or not reemploy a teacher. Under the measure, if a recommendation includes grounds that could form the basis of criminal charges sufficient to result in the denial or revocation of a teaching certificate for an offense of sexual abuse or exploitation, then the recommendation should be sent to the State Board of Education after the completion of due process procedures, or after the teacher resigns. If a copy of the recommendation is sent to the State Board, the local school board must also forward the recommendation to the teacher. The teacher may provide supplementary information to the State Board.

Only school districts may request a copy of the recommendation from the State Board, and only if a teacher is being considered for employment or is a teacher currently employed by the requesting school district. If a request is made for a copy of the recommendation, the State Board must notify the teacher of the request and the identity of the school district that made the request.

The State Board must provide the requesting school district with documents related to the recommendation as well as any supplementary information that was provided by the teacher who was the subject of the recommendation. Copies of this information must be forwarded to the teacher who was the subject of the recommendation. Under the measure, records provided to a requesting school district will be kept confidential and records created pursuant to this measure will not be subject to disclosure under the Oklahoma Open Records Act. If the State Board or a school district is served with a subpoena requesting disclosure of such documents, the teacher must be immediately notified and be provided the opportunity to object to the subpoena.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

Fiscal Analysis

Upon review of the measure, it has been determined to have no measureable revenue or fiscal considerations.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.

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