

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
HOUSE BILL NO. 1684

By: Wright of the House

and

Fields of the Senate

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1-111, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 135, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 1-111), which relates to the school day; requiring school districts that have extended certain school days to have a minimum number of instructional days; requiring school districts that have adopted certain school week to submit certain plan to State Board of Education; describing contents of plan; requiring school districts that have adopted certain school week to submit certain report to the State Department of Education by certain date; describing contents of report; requiring the State Department of Education to submit certain report to certain committee chairs; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1-111, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 135, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 1-111), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 1-111. A. Except as otherwise provided for by law, a
2 school day shall consist of not less than six (6) hours devoted to
3 school activities. A district board of education may elect to
4 extend the length of one (1) or more school days to more than six
5 (6) hours and reduce the number of school days as long as the total
6 amount of classroom instruction time is not less than one thousand
7 eighty (1,080) hours per year as required pursuant to Section 1-109
8 of this title and the total number of instructional days is not less
9 than one hundred seventy (170) days.

10 B. A school day for nursery, early childhood education,
11 kindergarten, and alternative education programs shall be as
12 otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of
13 Education. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, not
14 more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance
15 purposes in any twenty-four-hour period. Two (2) school days, each
16 consisting of not less than six (6) hours, may be counted for
17 attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period only if one of
18 the school days is for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences
19 held as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title.

20 C. Students absent from school in which they are regularly
21 enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for
22 such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under
23 the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or
24 to participate in an online course approved by the district board of

1 education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
2 provide for the implementation of supplemental online courses which
3 shall include, but not be limited to, provisions addressing the
4 following:

5 1. Criteria for student admissions eligibility;

6 2. A student admission process administered through the
7 district of residence, which provides the ability for the student to
8 enroll in individual courses;

9 3. A process by which students are not denied the opportunity
10 to enroll in educationally appropriate courses by school districts.
11 For the purposes of this section, "educationally appropriate" means
12 any instruction that is not substantially a repeat of a course or
13 portion of a course that the student has successfully completed,
14 regardless of the grade of the student, and regardless of whether a
15 course is similar to or identical to the instruction that is
16 currently offered in the school district;

17 4. Creation of a system which provides ongoing enrollment
18 access for students throughout the school year;

19 5. A grace period of fifteen (15) calendar days from the first
20 day of an online course for student withdrawal from an online course
21 without academic penalty;

22 6. Mastery of competencies for course completion rather than
23 Carnegie units;

1 7. Student participation in extracurricular activities in
2 accordance with school district eligibility rules and policies and
3 any rules and policies of a private organization or association
4 which provides the coordination, supervision, and regulation of the
5 interscholastic activities and contests of schools;

6 8. Parent authorization for release of state test results to
7 online course providers, on a form developed by the State Department
8 of Education; and

9 9. A review process to identify and certify online course
10 providers and a uniform payment processing system.

11 D. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and
12 procedures that conform to rules for online courses as adopted by
13 the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria for approval
14 of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a particular
15 student, authorization for full-time students to enroll in online
16 courses, and establishing fees or charges. No district shall be
17 liable for payment of any fees or charges for any online course for
18 a student who has not complied with the district's policies and
19 procedures. School districts shall not deny students the
20 opportunity to enroll in educationally appropriate courses and shall
21 provide an admissions process which includes input from the student,
22 the parent or guardian of the student, and school faculty.

23 E. Districts shall require students enrolled in online courses
24 to participate in the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act. Students

1 participating in online courses from a remote site will be
2 responsible for providing their own equipment and Internet access,
3 unless the district chooses to provide the equipment. Credit may
4 not be granted for such courses except upon approval of the State
5 Board of Education and the district board of education.

6 F. The school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6) hours
7 devoted to school activities.

8 G. 1. A school district that adopts a four-day school week and
9 any related rules shall submit a plan to the State Board of
10 Education no later than September 1 of each year. The plan shall
11 detail the goals sought to be achieved by the four-day school week,
12 the intended educational and fiscal benefits and the anticipated
13 impacts or outcomes the plan will have in the school district
14 including a discussion of any potential advantages and disadvantages
15 that have been identified by the school district.

16 2. Any school district that has adopted a four-day school week
17 by the effective date of this act shall submit a report to the State
18 Department of Education by August 1, 2017, and any school district
19 that adopts a four-day school week after the effective date of this
20 act shall submit a report to the State Department of Education by
21 August 1 following any school year consisting of four-day school
22 weeks. The report shall address whether the adoption of the four-
23 day school week yielded any educational or fiscal benefits. The
24 report may include but not be limited to information on whether

1 adoption of a four-day school week yielded cost savings, improved
2 test scores, improved teacher retention or decreased absenteeism.
3 The State Department of Education shall compile the reports and
4 submit them to the chairs of the education committees of the Senate
5 and House of Representatives.

6 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
7 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
8 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
9 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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