

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 514

By: Stanislawski and Loveless

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1, Chapter 403, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 1210.285), which relates to Regional Education Administrative Districts; requiring the State Department of Education, in certain consultation, to study shared administrative services of school districts; providing guidelines for study; directing the State Board of Education to publish certain list by certain date; providing for notification of certain school districts; providing for certain meeting; requiring the State Department of Education to establish certain districts to provide certain shared services to certain school districts; and removing language regarding certain voluntary participation.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 403, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 1210.285), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.285. A. The Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act, the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Office of Educational Quality and

1 Accountability, shall begin studying shared administrative services
2 of school districts in the state. The study shall take into
3 consideration:

4 1. Ways to reduce administrative costs, eliminate duplicative
5 overhead costs and improve efficiency among school district
6 operations;

7 2. The physical size of school districts, including the square
8 mileage of the district and its proximity to another school district
9 or districts;

10 3. The average daily membership (ADM) of the school districts;
11 and

12 4. The performance of school districts based on student
13 assessments required by Section 1210.508 of this title and the
14 annual reports required by Section 1210.545 of this title.

15 B. 1. By December 1, 2018, the State Board of Education shall
16 publish a list of all dependent and independent school districts
17 that it recommends to share administrative services.

18 2. The State Board of Education shall provide districts
19 included in the list published pursuant to paragraph 1 of this
20 subsection the opportunity to be heard. The Board shall notify the
21 superintendent and school board members of districts included in the
22 list of the time, date and place of the meeting. The chair of the
23 State Board of Education may set time limits on individual
24 presentations.

1 C. Following the meetings required by subsection B of this
2 section, the State Department of Education ~~may~~ shall establish
3 Regional Education Administrative Districts (READs) which ~~may~~ shall
4 provide shared administrative services to school districts
5 ~~throughout the state~~ included in the list published pursuant to
6 subsection B of this section. The Department shall provide
7 information to school districts to educate districts about the
8 functions and services which may be provided by READs. The
9 information shall be disseminated to school districts through
10 regional education officers and in any other manner deemed
11 appropriate by the Department.

12 ~~B.~~ D. The administrative services provided by READs may include
13 but not be limited to treasurer services, accounting services,
14 purchasing services, warehouse and distribution services, human
15 resources services, construction management, maintenance, risk
16 management, information technology services, special education
17 coordination, curriculum coordination, speech pathologist services,
18 reading specialist services, transportation services, cafeteria
19 services and shared superintendent services. Any personnel
20 operating under a READ may be housed at a local technology center
21 school site.

22 ~~C.~~ E. If the State Department of Education finds a currently
23 operating regional or interlocal cooperative providing services to
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1 school districts, the Department may provide support to the
2 cooperative.

3 ~~D.~~ F. READs may receive financial support from participating
4 school districts from money appropriated for state aid purposes.

5 The State Board of Education may determine the range of fees due to
6 READs for basic costs of providing services, taking into
7 consideration the minimum amount necessary for operation of a READ,
8 the number and size of participating school districts and the
9 geographic size of the READ service area. No fees shall be required
10 of school districts pursuant to this act that are greater than fees
11 charged school districts pursuant to similar programs.

12 ~~E.~~ G. 1. If two school districts enter into a mutual contract
13 with a superintendent pursuant to Section 5-106A of ~~Title 70 of the~~
14 ~~Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title, both districts may receive a
15 discounted fee, to be determined by the State Board of Education,
16 for participating in a READ.

17 2. If three or more school districts enter into a mutual
18 contract with a superintendent pursuant to Section 5-106A of ~~Title~~
19 ~~70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title, the districts may receive an
20 appropriately discounted fee, to be determined by the State Board of
21 Education, for participating in a READ.

22 ~~F. Participation in READs shall be voluntary.~~
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1 ~~G.~~ H. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to
2 implement the provisions of this section.

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