

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1593

By: Provenzano

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 6-192), which relates to professional development; requiring digital teaching and learning standards program for teachers; amending Section 1, Chapter 286, O.S.L. 2019 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 6-194.3), which relates to mental health needs of students; requiring training program addressing the mental health needs of students for teachers; amending Section 1, Chapter 4, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 11-103.6j), which relates to workplace safety training; requiring a workplace safety training program for certain teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1210.229-5, which relates to the Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy Board; requiring training on alcohol and drug abuse for teachers; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 6-192), is amended to read as follows:

1       Section 6-192. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
2 the Legislature to establish a professional development procedure  
3 whereby all teachers in the state continue their education beyond  
4 initial certification by the state to ensure that the children of  
5 the state are taught by professional educators, fully prepared in  
6 their areas of expertise. Furthermore, such professional  
7 development procedure shall provide alternative means of education,  
8 including one or more of the following: In-service programs, higher  
9 education courses, or other alternative means of education designed  
10 to help teachers enrich their professional abilities.

11       B. The professional development procedure shall include digital  
12 teaching and learning standards to enhance content delivery to  
13 students and improve student achievement. A local district board of  
14 education shall require a program for teachers which shall emphasize  
15 the importance of digital teaching and learning standards. The  
16 program shall be completed the first year a certified teacher is  
17 employed by a school district, and then at a frequency as determined  
18 by the local board.

19       SECTION 2.       AMENDATORY       Section 1, Chapter 286, O.S.L.  
20 2019 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 6-194.3), is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22       Section 6-194.3 A. The State Department of Education and the  
23 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, in  
24 consultation with school district superintendents and school

1 district boards of education, shall develop and make available to  
2 school districts information, training and resources to help school  
3 employees recognize and address the mental health needs of students.  
4 A local district board of education shall require a training program  
5 for teachers which shall emphasize the importance of recognizing and  
6 addressing the mental health needs of students. The program shall  
7 be completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a  
8 school district, and then once every third academic year.

9 B. The information made available to school districts shall  
10 include but not be limited to:

11 1. Information about the services provided by community-based  
12 organizations related to mental health, substance abuse and trauma;

13 2. Information about the impact trauma and adverse childhood  
14 experiences can have on a student's ability to learn;

15 3. The availability of mental health evaluation and treatment  
16 available by telemedicine; and

17 4. Information about evidence-based strategies for prevention  
18 of at-risk behaviors.

19 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 4, O.S.L. 2015  
20 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 11-103.6j), is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 Section 11-103.6j A. The State Department of Education, in  
23 collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Labor, shall make  
24 available to school districts information regarding workplace safety

1 training for grades seven through twelve. Such information shall  
2 include the Oklahoma Department of Labor's "Youth @ Work Talking  
3 Safety: A Safety and Health Curriculum for Young Workers".

4 B. The State Department of Education shall encourage school  
5 districts to inform grade-seven through -twelve teachers about the  
6 importance of incorporating workplace safety training in their  
7 curriculum.

8 C. A local district board of education shall require a program  
9 for seventh-grade through twelfth-grade teachers, which shall  
10 emphasize the importance of incorporating workplace safety training  
11 into curriculum. The program shall be completed the first year a  
12 certified teacher is employed by a school district, and then at a  
13 frequency as determined by the local board.

14 D. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to  
15 implement the provisions of this act.

16 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1210.229-5,  
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1210.229-5 A. The State Superintendent of Public  
19 Instruction and State Department of Education in conjunction with  
20 the Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy Board shall:

21 1. Establish objective criteria, guidelines and a comprehensive  
22 integrated curriculum for substance abuse programs and the teaching  
23 of life skills in local schools and school districts;

1        2. Establish and review annually model policies for alcohol and  
2 drug abuse issues, including but not limited to policies regarding  
3 disciplinary actions and referral for services;

4        3. Develop and implement strategies which encourage all schools  
5 to employ guidance counselors trained in substance abuse prevention  
6 and life skills and to develop and begin implementing quality  
7 substance abuse and life skills education programs; and

8        4. Develop guidelines and criteria to encourage teachers and  
9 administrators to receive in-service training on alcohol and drug  
10 abuse. The training or workshops should be included in the staff  
11 development point system. The training or workshop shall be  
12 completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a school  
13 district, and then once every third academic year.

14        B. The State Department of Education shall distribute  
15 information or reports provided by the Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol  
16 Abuse Policy Board, to each school district and, upon request, to  
17 members of the public. Upon request of the chief administrator of a  
18 school or school district, the Department shall provide technical  
19 assistance to schools and school districts to implement policies and  
20 programs pursuant to guidelines provided by the Oklahoma Drug and  
21 Alcohol Abuse Policy Board and shall provide a clearinghouse program  
22 accessible by school districts to provide information about life  
23 skills and drug and alcohol abuse prevention curricula and programs.

1 C. Final determination of materials to be used, means of  
2 implementation of the curriculum, and ages and times at which  
3 students receive instruction about said life skills and drug and  
4 alcohol abuse prevention shall be made by the local school board.  
5 The local school district, at least one (1) month prior to giving  
6 such instruction to students, shall conduct for parents and  
7 guardians of students involved, during weekend or evening hours, at  
8 least one presentation concerning the plans for instruction and the  
9 materials to be used. No student shall be required to receive  
10 instruction about said life skills and drug and alcohol abuse  
11 prevention if a parent or guardian of the student objects in  
12 writing.

13 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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