

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1593

By: Provenzano and Davis of the
House

and

Stanley of the Senate

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.

SUBJECT: Schools

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:

Section 6-192. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Legislature to establish a professional development procedure

whereby all teachers in the state continue their education beyond initial certification by the state to ensure that the children of the state are taught by professional educators, fully prepared in their areas of expertise. Furthermore, such professional development procedure shall provide alternative means of education, including one or more of the following: In-service programs, higher education courses, or other alternative means of education designed to help teachers enrich their professional abilities.

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

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

Section 6-194.3 A. The State Department of Education and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, in consultation with school district superintendents and school district boards of education, shall develop and make available to school districts information, training and resources to help school employees recognize and address the mental health needs of students. A local district board of education shall require a training program for teachers which shall emphasize the importance of recognizing and addressing the mental health needs of students. The program shall be completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a school district, and then once every third academic year.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section 11-103.6j A. The State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Labor, shall make available to school districts information regarding workplace safety training for grades seven through twelve. Such information shall include the Oklahoma Department of Labor's "Youth @ Work Talking Safety: A Safety and Health Curriculum for Young Workers".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Passed the House of Representatives the 1st day of March, 2021.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 14th day of April, 2021.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____
day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.
By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____
day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____
day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.
By: _____