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April 5, 2022

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 4370

By: Ford of the House

and

Bergstrom of the Senate

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 5-118, which relates to meetings of school boards of education; requiring certain meetings to be accessible through a live video and audio stream; providing for publication of certain notice to members of the public; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 5-118, is amended to read as follows:

Section 5-118. A. Regular meetings of the board of education of each school district shall be held upon the first Monday of each month, or upon such day as may be fixed by the board. Special meetings may be held from time to time as circumstances may demand.

B. All meetings of the boards of education shall be public meetings, and in all such meetings the vote of each member must be publicly cast and recorded. Executive sessions will be permitted only for the purpose of discussing the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignations of

1 any or all of the employees or volunteers of the school district,
2 and for the purpose of discussing negotiations concerning employees
3 and representatives of employee groups, and for the purpose of
4 hearing evidence and discussing the expulsion or suspension of a
5 student or students only when requested by the student involved or
6 his or her parent, attorney, or legal guardian; provided, however,
7 that any vote or action thereon must be taken in a public meeting
8 with the vote of each member publicly cast and recorded. It is
9 required that the board of education shall provide notice to the
10 student, his or her parent, attorney or legal guardian that said
11 student is entitled to an executive session regarding the discussion
12 of expulsion or suspension of said student.

13 C. The board of education of a school district with an average
14 daily attendance of more than five thousand (5,000) students shall
15 provide a live video and audio stream of all public meetings of the
16 board of education. Information notifying members of the public how
17 to access the meeting livestream shall be clearly published on the
18 website and social media accounts of the school district.

19 D. Any action taken in violation of the provisions of this act
20 shall be invalid.

21 E. Each member of the board of education of a school district
22 with an average daily attendance exceeding fifteen thousand (15,000)
23 or a school district where boundaries encompass a total population
24 exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) persons according to the

1 last preceding Federal Decennial Census may be paid from the
2 district's general fund a stipend of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
3 for each regular, special or adjourned meeting of the board of
4 education that he or she attends, but not for more than four
5 meetings in any calendar month.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
8 April 5, 2022 - DO PASS
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