

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION 1052

By: Munson

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution for the formation of a special investigative committee with respect to Ryan Walters, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; findings; special committee; membership; procedures; duties; report to the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

WHEREAS, Ryan Walters was elected to the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction at the General Election, November 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, since taking office, Ryan Walters has engaged in conduct that ought to be investigated pursuant to the standards set out in Sections 1 through 6 of Article VIII of the Oklahoma Constitution and the provisions of Section 51 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma House of Representatives should make further inquiry into the acts or omissions of Ryan Walters to determine whether formal impeachment proceedings should be undertaken.

1       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

3       THAT there is hereby created a Special Investigating Committee  
4 of the House of Representatives.

5       THAT the Special Investigating Committee shall consist of a  
6 total of eight (8) persons as follows:

7 Four from each party, to include the chair of the standing committee  
8 on Education and the chair of Judiciary Criminal committee.

9 Appointments from the majority party shall be made by the Speaker of  
10 the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Appointments from the  
11 minority party shall be made by the Minority Leader of the Oklahoma  
12 House of Representatives. The members of the Special Investigating  
13 Committee shall select from among their membership a chair and co-  
14 chair.

15       THAT the purpose of the Special Investigating Committee shall be  
16 to conduct a comprehensive and detailed study and investigation of  
17 the activities of Ryan Walters, the Superintendent of Public  
18 Instruction of the State of Oklahoma, to determine whether Articles  
19 of Impeachment should be prepared and presented to the Oklahoma  
20 House of Representatives.

21       THAT the Special Investigating Committee, with the approval of  
22 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, may contract with  
23 attorneys, investigators, court reporters, and such other personnel  
24

1 as may be necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Special  
2 Investigating Committee.

3 THAT the Special Investigating Committee shall be empowered to  
4 issue all process known to courts of record, including the power to  
5 subpoena witnesses, documents, and records; administer oaths; take  
6 and record testimony; and to request punishment for contempt for any  
7 disobedience of process and any contumacious or disorderly conduct  
8 as provided in Section 42 of Article V of the Constitution of the  
9 State of Oklahoma.

10 THAT for the purpose of serving all process directed by the  
11 Special Investigating Committee, the Sergeant at Arms and the  
12 Assistant Sergeants at Arms of the Oklahoma House of Representatives  
13 are designated as service officers to serve without additional  
14 compensation, except for necessary travel expense that may be  
15 incurred in the performance of their duties as service officers.

16 THAT witness fees, as required by the laws of this state, shall  
17 be paid from funds appropriated for the operation of the Oklahoma  
18 House of Representatives.

19 THAT the Special Investigating Committee may make such interim  
20 reports during its open meetings from time to time as the Chair of  
21 the Committee shall deem advisable prior to the submission of the  
22 report of the Committee.

23 THAT the Special Investigating Committee, at the conclusion of  
24 its investigation, shall submit a written report to the Speaker of  
--

1 the Oklahoma House of Representatives, which shall include its  
2 findings and its recommendations for any action deemed necessary.

3

4 59-2-11208 MAH 05/29/24

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- -