

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1893

By: Thompson (Kristen)

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to school district boards of education; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 5-118, which relates to meetings of boards of education; requiring boards to provide certain public comment period; updating statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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. Each school district board of education shall provide for one public comment period, subject to reasonable time limitations, prior to discussion and possible votes on any agenda items.

C. All meetings of the boards of education shall be public meetings, and in all such meetings the vote of each member ~~must~~ shall be publicly cast and recorded. Executive sessions ~~will~~ shall

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

15 D. Any action taken in violation of the provisions of this act
16 shall be invalid.

17 E. Each member of the board of education of a school district
18 with an average daily attendance exceeding fifteen thousand (15,000)
19 or a school district where boundaries encompass a total population
20 exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) persons according to the
21 last preceding Federal Decennial Census may be paid from the
22 district's general fund a stipend of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
23 for each regular, special, or adjourned meeting of the board of
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1 education that he or she attends, but not for more than four
2 meetings in any calendar month.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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