1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 2259 By: Miller and Crosswhite Hader 3 of the House 4 and 5 Pugh of the Senate 6 7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 8-103.1 and Section 1, Chapter 368, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 8-114), which 8 relate to school transfers; removing reference to 9 home of record for military dependent transfers; removing reference to requirement that parents provide certain evidence of active duty status for 10 certain transfer approvals; prohibiting schools from precluding certain transfer students from enrollment 11 prior to establishing residency; mandating that intra-district transfer students stay in the 12 transferred district continuously; clarifying and 1.3 limiting exceptions for continual intra-district transfers; providing capacity exception for certain 14 military children's intra-district transfers; prescribing number of certain post-capacity 15 transfers; defining terms; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency. 16 17 18 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, line 20, insert after "8-103.1" the following: ", as amended by Section 1, Chapter 19 73, O.S.L. 2021" 20 AMENDMENT NO. 2. Page 10, line 14 1/2, insert a new Section 3 to read 2.1 "SECTION 3. REPEALER 70 O.S. 2021, Section 8-103.1, as 22 amended by Section 3, Chapter 6, O.S.L. 2021, is hereby repealed." 23 and renumber subsequent sections 24

| 1 | and amend the title to conform |
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| 3 | Passed the Senate the 1st day of May, 2025. |
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| 5 | Presiding Officer of the Senate |
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| 7 | Passed the House of Representatives the day of, |
| | 2025. |
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1 ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 2259 By: Miller and Crosswhite Hader 2 of the House 3 and 4 Pugh of the Senate 5 6 7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, 8 Section 8-103.1 and Section 1, Chapter 368, O.S.L. 9 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 8-114), which relate to school transfers; removing reference to home of record for military dependent transfers; 10 removing reference to requirement that parents provide certain evidence of active duty status for 11 certain transfer approvals; prohibiting schools from precluding certain transfer students from enrollment 12 prior to establishing residency; mandating that 1.3 intra-district transfer students stay in the transferred district continuously; clarifying and 14 limiting exceptions for continual intra-district transfers; providing capacity exception for certain 15 military children's intra-district transfers; prescribing number of certain post-capacity 16 transfers; defining terms; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency. 17 18 19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 20 SECTION 1. 70 O.S. 2021, Section 8-103.1, is AMENDATORY 21 amended to read as follows: 22 Section 8-103.1. A. A local school district board of education 23 which receives a request for a transfer for a student who does not

reside in the school district may refuse the transfer in accordance

with the provisions of the open transfer policy adopted by the local school district board of education and subject to the provisions of subsections B and C of this section. Each local board of education shall adopt an open transfer policy for the school district which specifies its criteria and standards for approval of transfers of students who do not reside in the district. The policy shall include, but shall not be limited to, provisions relating to the availability of programs, staff, or space as criteria for approval or denial of transfers. A school district may include in the policy as the basis for denial of a transfer, the reasons outlined in Section 24-101.3 of this title.

In considering requests for students to transfer into a school district, the board of education shall consider the requests on a first-come, first-serve basis. A school district shall not accept or deny a transfer based on ethnicity, national origin, gender, income level, disabling condition, proficiency in the English language, measure of achievement, aptitude, or athletic ability.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Education Open Transfer Act, transfers of children with disabilities shall be granted as authorized in Section 13-103 of this title.

B. A local school district board of education shall adopt a policy for the school district regarding the transfer of students who are the dependent children of a member of the active uniformed military services of the United States on full-time active duty

- status and for whom Oklahoma is the home of record and students who
 are the dependent children of a member of the military reserve on
 active duty orders and for whom Oklahoma is the home of record. The
 policy shall provide for the approval of the transfer if:
 - 1. At least one parent of the student has a Department of Defense-issued identification card; and
 - 2. At least one parent can provide evidence that he or she will be on active duty status or active duty orders, meaning the parent will be temporarily transferred in compliance with official orders to another location in support of combat, contingency operation or a natural disaster requiring the use of orders for more than thirty (30) consecutive days; and
 - 3. The student will be residing with a relative of the student who lives in the receiving school district or who will be living in the receiving school district within six (6) months of the filing of the application for transfer.
 - C. 1. A student shall be considered in compliance with the residency provisions of Section 1-113 of this title if he or she is a student whose parent or legal guardian is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order.
 - 2. A school district shall accept applications by electronic means for enrollment including enrollment in a specific school or

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program within the school district and course registration for students described in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

- 3. <u>A student shall not be precluded from enrollment prior</u>

 to residency as provided in this subsection for any of
 the following:
 - (1) having an individualized education program or an individualized family service plan under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 29
 U.S.C., Section 1400 et seq.,
 - (2) receiving or qualifying for special education courses or services, or
 - (3) receiving or qualifying for accommodations or services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29
 U.S.C., Section 504.
 - b. If the enrolling student is transferring with an individualized education program, an individualized family service plan, or a Section 504 plan, the district board of education shall take the necessary steps including, but not limited to, the transfer of records and any prior evaluations, the performance of reevaluations, if necessary, and meetings to ensure that comparable services are in place prior to the student's first day of school in the state.

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- 4. The parent or legal guardian of a student described in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall provide proof of residence in the school district within ten (10) days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation. A parent or legal guardian may use the following addresses as proof of residence:
 - a. a temporary on-base billeting facility,
 - b. a purchased or leased home or apartment, or
 - c. federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing.
 - D. For purposes of this section:

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follows:

- 1. "Active military duty" means full-time military duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States including members of the National Guard and Military Reserve on active duty orders; and
- 2. "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship or other installation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense or the United States Coast Guard.
- 19 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 368, O.S.L. 20 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 8-114), is amended to read as
- Section 8-114. A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, beginning July 1, 2024, the transfer of a student from one school site to another school site within the school district where

the student resides shall be approved at any time in the year, unless the grade level of the receiving school site has reached capacity. If the capacity of a grade level is insufficient to enroll all eligible students, the school district shall select intra-district transfer students based on the preferences outlined in paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section and then in the order in which the intra-district transfer applications were received. The school district board of education shall determine the capacity of a school site based on its policy adopted pursuant to subsection B of this section. A student may be granted a one-year intradistrict transfer and may shall automatically continue to attend the school site where the student transferred each school year with the approval of the school district, unless the school district denies the continued intra-district transfer for the reasons outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section. At the end of each school year, a school district may only deny continued intradistrict transfer of the student for the reasons outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section.

1. Any sibling of a student who transfers intra-district may attend the school site to which the student transferred if the school district policy gives preference to sibling transfers regardless of capacity and the sibling of the transferred student does not meet a basis for denial as outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section.

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- 2. The child of a school district employee who resides in the school district but wishes to attend a different school site within the school district where the student resides may be granted an intra-district transfer if the school district policy gives preference to the transfer of children of school district employees and the student does not meet a basis for denial as outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section.
- 3. A student who changes residence within a school district and who wishes to attend the same school site may be granted an intradistrict transfer if the school district policy gives preference to such transfers and the student does not meet a basis for denial as outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section.
- 4. Any child in the custody of the Department of Human Services and living in foster care who resides in the home of another student who transfers intra-district may attend the school site to which the student transferred.

Except for a child in the custody of the Department of Human Services in foster care, an intra-district transfer student shall not transfer more than two times per school year to other school sites within the school district where the student resides, provided that the student may always reenroll at any time in his or her school site of residence.

B. Each school district board of education shall adopt a policy to determine the number of intra-district transfer students the

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- school district has the capacity to accept in each grade level for each school site within a school district no later than July 1,

 2024. The policy shall be publicly posted on the school district website. The policy:
 - 1. Shall include an enrollment preference and reserve capacity for:
 - a. students who reside in the school site boundary,
 - b. students who attended the school site the prior school year,
 - c. siblings of students who are already enrolled at the school site,
 - d. children of school district employees who wish to attend a different school site within the school district, and
 - e. students who change residence within a school district and who wish to attend the same school site;
 - 2. May include the acts and reasons outlined in Section 24-101.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title as a basis for denial of an intra-district transfer; and
 - 3. May include a history of absences as a basis for denial of an intra-district transfer. For the purposes of this section,

 "history of absences" means ten or more absences in one semester that are not excused for the reasons provided in subsection B of

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- 1 Section 10-105 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title or 2 due to illness.
 - C. By the first day of January, April, July, and October of each year, the school district board of education shall establish the number of intra-district transfer students the school district has the capacity to accept in each grade level for each school site within the district.
 - D. After establishing the number of intra-district transfer students the school district has the capacity to accept in each grade level for each school site, the board of education shall:
 - 1. Publish in a prominent place on the school district website the number of intra-district transfer students for each grade level for each school site within the school district which the district has the capacity to accept; and
 - 2. Report to the State Department of Education the number of intra-district transfer students for each grade level for each school site within the school district which the district has the capacity to accept.
- E. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, school

 districts shall allow students who are the dependent children of a

 member of the active uniformed military services of the United

 States on full-time active duty status, and students who are the

 dependent children of a member of the military reserve on active

 duty orders, provisional eligibility for intra-district transfers

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| 1 | regardless of capacity. The number of intra-district transfers |
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| 2 | specific to military dependents shall be based on two (2) military |
| 3 | dependents per one hundred (100) enrolled students at the elementary |
| 4 | school level, four (4) military dependents per one hundred (100) |
| 5 | students at the middle school level, and six (6) military dependents |
| 6 | at the high school level. Students shall be eligible under this |
| 7 | subsection as outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection B of |
| 8 | Section 8-103.1 of this title. |
| 9 | 2. For purposes of this subsection: |
| 10 | a. <u>"elementary school" means kindergarten through fifth</u> |
| 11 | grade, |
| 12 | b. "middle school" means sixth grade through eighth |
| 13 | grade, and |
| 14 | c. "high school" means ninth grade through twelfth grade. |
| 15 | SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025. |
| 16 | SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation |
| 17 | of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby |
| 18 | declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and |
| 19 | be in full force from and after its passage and approval. |
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| 1 | Passed the House of Representatives the 11th day of March, 2025. |
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| 4 | Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives |
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| 6 | Passed the Senate the day of, 2025. |
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