

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB1937 _____
Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Adopted: _____

Amendment submitted by: Danny Sterling _____

Reading Clerk

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 PROPOSED OVERSIGHT
4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL 1937

By: Sterling and Lowe

7
8 PROPOSED OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1,
10 Chapter 297, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section
11 6-401), which relates to student communication;
12 defining student; permitting school districts to
13 determine whether to place school personnel on
14 administrative leave during an investigation;
15 removing requirement that an incident be noted in a
16 school personnel's employee file; requiring an
17 employee that was put on administrative leave during
18 an investigation and the investigation finding no
19 misconduct be reinstated and that the finding of no
20 misconduct be noted in the school personnel's
21 employee file; providing an effective date; and
22 declaring an emergency.

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

24 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 297, O.S.L.
2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 6-401), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 6-401. A. As used in this section:

1 1. "Electronic or digital communication" includes, but is not
2 limited to, emails, text messages, instant messages, direct
3 messages, social media messages, messages sent through software
4 applications, and any other electronic or digital means of
5 communication; ~~and~~

6 2. "School personnel" means teachers, coaches, administrators,
7 school bus drivers, or any other persons employed full-time or part-
8 time by a public school or charter school; and

9 3. "Student" means a person enrolled in a public school or
10 charter school in this state receiving primary or secondary
11 education to obtain a standard high school diploma or high school
12 equivalency diploma. Student does not mean a person who holds a
13 standard high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma.

14 B. School personnel engaging in electronic or digital
15 communication with an individual student shall include the student's
16 parent or legal guardian in any electronic or digital communication,
17 unless such communication is on a school-approved platform and
18 related to school and academic communications.

19 C. Exceptions to the requirement in subsection B of this
20 section may be made in case of an emergency as determined by the
21 local school board, subject to subsequent notification to the parent
22 or legal guardian. School personnel shall make reasonable efforts
23 to use school-approved platforms, systems, or applications that
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1 allow automatic inclusion of parents or legal guardians in
2 communications with students.

3 D. Schools shall provide training, developed by the State
4 Department of Education, for school personnel on the student
5 communication requirements of this section.

6 E. Any school personnel who is reported to be in violation of
7 subsection B of this section ~~shall~~ may be put on administrative
8 leave while the school district investigates the incident and
9 notifies the board of education. If the investigation finds that no
10 misconduct occurred, ~~the school personnel shall be reinstated and~~
11 ~~the incident shall~~ not be noted in the school personnel's employee
12 file. If the school personnel was placed on administrative leave
13 during the investigation of the incident but the investigation finds
14 that no misconduct occurred, the school personnel shall be
15 reinstated and the school personnel's employee file shall be noted
16 of the finding of no misconduct. If the investigation finds
17 misconduct occurred, the school personnel shall be disciplined
18 according to the school district board of education's policy, up to
19 and including termination of employment, and the incident shall be
20 reported to law enforcement pursuant to Section 1210.163 of ~~Title 70~~
21 ~~of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

23 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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4 60-2-16242 AQH 02/10/26

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