

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB2210 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**

Amendment submitted by: Mike Lay

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reading Clerk

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

PROPOSED POLICY  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2210

By: Lay

PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to career and technology education; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 14-127, which relates to youth apprenticeship programs; modifying the applicable age range; detailing when high school students may begin the program; directing the Department of Career and Technology Services to oversee and implement the program; requiring apprenticeship coordinators and describing their duties; defining and requiring workplace mentors; granting oversight to the Secretary of Education; requiring certain reports; appropriating funds to carry out the program; providing for noncodification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 14-127, is amended to read as follows:

Section 14-127. A. The Oklahoma Legislature, recognizing the need for improved methods of helping ~~secondary students~~ youth ages sixteen (16) through twenty-five (25) years old make a ~~smooth~~ meaningful transition from high school to the workplace, hereby

1 establishes guidelines for youth apprenticeship programs. It shall  
2 be the responsibility of the Oklahoma Department of Career and  
3 Technology Education to establish a state certified apprenticeship  
4 program. The Board shall establish the rules to carry out the state  
5 apprenticeship program.

6 B. Youth apprenticeship programs shall be defined as learning  
7 programs for young people enrolled in vocational education that  
8 combine ~~on-the-job~~ work-based learning with classroom instruction,  
9 that offer a bridge between secondary and post high school training  
10 and education, and that result in certification of mastery of work  
11 skills.

12 C. A high school student may begin participation in an  
13 apprenticeship beginning in the eleventh grade. Students who do not  
14 begin participation during the eleventh grade may enter a pre-  
15 apprenticeship or a full apprenticeship during the twelfth grade,  
16 subject to employer need and program design. Students must be at  
17 least sixteen (16) years of age to begin paid employment at a  
18 workplace but related instruction may be completed before a student  
19 turns sixteen years of age. High school Students who enter an  
20 Oklahoma Certified Apprenticeship program shall be given equal  
21 credit to an Oklahoma CareerTech Approved Full-Time Postsecondary  
22 Program.

23 D. The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology shall fund  
24 Apprenticeship coordinators. Apprenticeship coordinators shall

1 serve as the main liaison among school districts, industry  
2 consortia, and hosting employers. Apprenticeship coordinators shall  
3 also be responsible for guiding apprenticeship approval, providing  
4 technical assistance to employers, site-based mentors, and school  
5 districts, collecting site-level data on approved apprenticeships,  
6 forming industry consortia, and chairing semi-annual industry  
7 consortia meetings. Apprenticeship coordinators shall have a  
8 caseload of apprenticeships to manage at their sites. After the  
9 first year of operation, Oklahoma Department of Career and  
10 Technology may move Apprenticeship coordinators based on varying  
11 local capacity for apprenticeships. The Oklahoma Department of  
12 Career and Technology shall work to ensure that apprenticeship  
13 opportunities are comparable in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

14 E. A "workplace mentor" refers to an experienced employee who  
15 provides direct supervision, instruction, and support for high  
16 school apprentices, ensuring that an apprentice receives the skills  
17 needed for a recognized credential and a clear pathway to full-time  
18 employment in a skilled occupation. Each high school apprenticeship  
19 shall have a site-based mentor.

20 F. The Secretary of Education shall provide statewide oversight  
21 of all Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education-  
22 approved high school apprenticeship programs. An annual report  
23 shall be submitted to the legislature that includes, but is not  
24 limited to, the number of high school apprenticeships currently

1 enrolled, the number of high school apprenticeships completed, the  
2 estimated return on investment of completed apprenticeships to the  
3 state, and capacity differences across rural, suburban, and urban  
4 areas of the state.

5 G. The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology shall  
6 contract with an Oklahoma-based external evaluator or Oklahoma-based  
7 university researcher to conduct a comprehensive return-on-  
8 investment and impact evaluation of approved high school  
9 apprenticeship programs. This report shall be submitted to the  
10 Secretary of Education annually to inform the Secretary of  
11 Education's annual report to the legislature. This external  
12 evaluation will be used to make annual funding determinations. The  
13 cost of the evaluation shall not exceed Twelve Thousand Dollars  
14 (\$12,000.00).

15 C. Youth apprenticeship programs shall be administered and  
16 supervised by the State Board of Career and Technology Education,  
17 which shall also establish standards for program operation.

18 D. Notwithstanding any other section of law, youth  
19 apprenticeship programs shall not mean any traditional  
20 apprenticeship program registered by the Bureau of Apprenticeship  
21 and Training, United States Department of Labor.

22 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
23 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:  
24

1       There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Department of  
2 Career and Technology Education from any monies not otherwise  
3 appropriated from the General Fund of the State Treasury for the  
4 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the sum of Two Million Dollars  
5 (\$2,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to perform  
6 the duties imposed upon the Oklahoma Department of Career and  
7 Technology to carry out the youth apprenticeship program as directed  
8 in Section 1 of this act.

9       SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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

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15       60-2-16222       TKR       02/11/26  
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