

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 3710

6 By: Caldwell (Chad)

7 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

8 An Act relating to education; creating the District
9 Realignment Commission; providing for membership and
10 appointments; prohibiting service on Commission by
11 elected officials; providing procedures based on post
12 appointment elected official status; imposing duties
13 on Commission; requiring staff assistance;
14 prescribing criteria for evaluation of schools or
15 school districts; requiring final report; prescribing
16 due date; prescribing procedures for consideration of
17 legislative measure for approval of final report of
18 the District Realignment Commission; prohibiting
19 certain procedures; prescribing requirements for
20 approval; requiring measure to be transmitted to the
21 Secretary of State; requiring certain ballot title
22 content; prescribing duties for the State Board of
23 Education and the State Department of Education;
24 requiring final report recommendations to be
implemented; prohibiting certain actions or
inactions; providing for codification; and declaring
an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1215.001 of Title 70, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. There is hereby created the "District Realignment
2 Commission".

3 B. The Commission shall consist of nine (9) persons to be
4 appointed or selected as follows:

5 1. Five persons to be appointed by the Governor:

6 a. one of whom shall be a professional auditor,

7 b. one of whom shall be experienced in finance,

8 c. one of whom shall be a representative of a statewide
9 organization that represents business,

10 d. one of whom shall be experienced in the education
11 area, and

12 e. one of whom shall be an at-large appointee;

13 2. One person appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of
14 Representatives;

15 3. One person appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
16 Oklahoma State Senate;

17 4. One person appointed by the Minority Leader of the Oklahoma
18 House of Representatives; and

19 5. One person appointed by the Minority Leader of the Oklahoma
20 State Senate.

21 C. No voting member of the Commission shall be appointed if at
22 the time of the appointment the person is an elected official. Any
23 person appointed to the Commission who subsequently becomes an
24 elected official during service on the Commission shall vacate the

1 position on the Commission and the vacancy shall be filled by the
2 applicable appointing authority. All persons appointed to the
3 Commission shall serve at the pleasure of the respective appointing
4 authority and may be removed with or without cause. All initial
5 appointments to the Commission shall be completed not later than
6 November 1, 2026.

7 D. The Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency shall provide
8 assistance to the Commission and shall prepare an initial review of
9 schools and school districts of the state using the criteria
10 including, but not limited to, those specified in subsection E of
11 this section.

12 E. The Commission shall prepare a report related to the
13 efficient management of the common schools and school districts of
14 the state. The Commission shall evaluate schools or school
15 districts based on financial compliance, financial efficiency, and
16 academic outcomes. The Commission shall take into consideration the
17 total enrollment of a school or school district and physical
18 location of schools including proximity to other schools or school
19 districts.

20 F. The final report of the Commission shall include specific
21 findings and recommendations including, but not limited to,
22 recommendations that an existing district be modified, divided,
23 subdivided, or consolidated with one or more other districts.

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1 G. The first report of the Commission shall be filed with the
2 Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and
3 the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate not later
4 than December 1, 2027. The subsequent report shall be filed not
5 later than December 1, 2037, and not later than December 1 occurring
6 each ten (10) years thereafter.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1215.002 of Title 70, unless
9 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. The Oklahoma House of Representatives or the Oklahoma State
11 Senate or both such chambers shall cause to be introduced a measure
12 in the Second Regular Session of the 61st Oklahoma Legislature in
13 2028 for the purpose of referring a question to a vote of the people
14 at the General Election to be held in November 2028. Such measure
15 shall be introduced in the even-numbered year of each biennium
16 period in each succeeding ten-year period thereafter.

17 B. The measure shall not be assigned to any standing or special
18 committee of either chamber of the Legislature, but shall only be
19 voted upon by each chamber on the third reading of such measure in
20 each of the respective chambers in accordance with deadlines
21 prescribed for the final date for third reading and final passage in
22 each such chamber. The measure shall not be subject to amendment
23 during consideration of the measure by either chamber.

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1 C. The measure shall either contain the full text of the final
2 report of the District Realignment Commission or be prepared in a
3 way that allows a member of either chamber of the Legislature to
4 access the content of the final report from a hyperlink or similar
5 method embedded in the version of the measure which is available to
6 the member of the respective chamber of the Legislature or using
7 such other method as may be required in order to ensure that each
8 member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and each member of
9 the Oklahoma State Senate has access to the exact same version or
10 text of the final report of the Commission at the time the vote on
11 Third Reading occurs in each respective chamber.

12 D. If the measure receives approval by a majority of those
13 persons elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature,
14 the measure shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State for
15 preparation as a state question to appear on the ballot at the
16 General Election to be held in November 2028 and at each General
17 Election occurring in November of each succeeding ten-year period
18 thereafter. The measure shall contain a ballot title which shall
19 read as follows:

20 BALLOT TITLE
21 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

22 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

23 SHALL THE FINAL REPORT OF THE DISTRICT REALIGNMENT COMMISSION BE
24 APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED?

1 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

2 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

3 E. If the measure described by this section receives approval
4 as required by this section, the measure shall be enrolled by the
5 chamber of origin and transmitted to the Secretary of State. No
6 joint rules or rules of either the Oklahoma House of Representatives
7 or the Oklahoma State Senate or other procedure shall be adopted if
8 such rule or procedure would prevent the transmission of the
9 enrolled version of the measure to the Secretary of State. No
10 measure described by this section shall be presented to the Governor
11 for action.

12 F. No public official shall have the authority to modify or
13 replace the wording of the ballot title as prescribed by subsection
14 D of this section.

15 G. If the question is approved, the State Board of Education
16 and the State Department of Education shall take such actions as may
17 be necessary to implement the recommendations as approved pursuant
18 to the provisions of this section.

19 H. No school district shall take any action or refuse to take
20 any action that would prevent, delay, or interfere with the full
21 implementation of the recommendations of the final report of the
22 District Realignment Commission.

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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