

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1958

By: Staires of the House

and

7 **Sacchieri** of the Senate

8
9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
11 Section 5-118, which relates to meetings of district
12 boards of education; allowing a board of education to
13 submit an affidavit in lieu of meeting minutes in
14 certain circumstances; stating affidavit
15 requirements; requiring the State Department of
16 Education to accept certain affidavits; clarifying
17 duty of boards to keep meeting minutes; providing
18 affidavit components; and providing an effective
19 date.

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

21 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 5-118, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 5-118. A. Regular meetings of the board of education
24 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.

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

18 C. Any action taken in violation of the provisions of this act
19 shall be invalid.

20 D. Each member of the board of education of a school district
21 with an average daily attendance exceeding fifteen thousand (15,000)
22 or a school district where boundaries encompass a total population
23 exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) persons according to the
24 last preceding Federal Decennial Census may be paid from the

1 district's general fund a stipend of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
2 for each regular, special or adjourned meeting of the board of
3 education that he or she attends, but not for more than four
4 meetings in any calendar month.

5 E. 1. Unless otherwise provided by law, a board of education
6 may submit an Affidavit of Board Action to the State Department of
7 Education in lieu of approved board minutes to provide proof of an
8 action approved or taken at a board meeting. Such affidavit shall
9 be signed and sworn by the applicable personnel as provided in
10 paragraph 2 of this subsection. The State Department of Education
11 shall accept a signed Affidavit of Board Action as certification
12 that the district board has approved or taken a specific action at a
13 board meeting. Nothing in this subsection shall exempt a board of
14 education from keeping minutes of a meeting in accordance with
15 Section 312 of Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

16 2. The Affidavit of Board Action described in paragraph 1 of
17 this subsection shall include:

- 18 a. the county or district code,
 - 19 b. the name of the school district,
 - 20 c. the date of the board meeting,
 - 21 d. the agenda item number approved,
 - 22 e. a summary of the action approved,
- 23
24

1 f. an affirming signature representing the district from
2 the district superintendent or the assistant
3 superintendent, and

4 g. an affirming signature representing the district board
5 from the board president or chair, or from a board
6 officer.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OVERSIGHT, dated
10 03/05/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.