

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1800

By: Jett

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to school employees; defining term;  
8 requiring certain notification if an individual  
9 employed by certain school is being investigated for,  
10 has been arrested in relation to, or has been charged  
11 with certain offenses; requiring certain board of  
12 education to suspend the employee pending certain  
13 outcome; prohibiting suspension from depriving  
14 certain employee of certain compensation and  
15 benefits; prohibiting employee from being on school  
16 premises during suspension term; providing for  
17 extension of suspension under certain circumstances;  
18 prohibiting employee from submitting resignation  
19 during suspension term; requiring certain  
20 superintendent to provide certain notification;  
21 requiring notification to include certain statement;  
22 providing for promulgation of rules; providing for  
23 codification; providing an effective date; and  
24 declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-144.1 of Title 70, unless  
21 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. As used in this section, "offenses against students" means  
23 crimes or attempts to commit crimes provided for in Section 843.5 of  
24 Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes if the offense involved sexual

1 abuse or sexual exploitation as those terms are defined in Section  
2 1-1-105 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, or Section 741,  
3 843.1, if the offense included sexual abuse or sexual exploitation,  
4 865 et seq., 885, 888, 891, 1021, 1021.2, 1021.3, 1040.13a, 1087,  
5 1088, 1111.1, 1114, or 1123 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

6       B. If an individual employed by a public school district,  
7 public charter school, or public virtual charter school in this  
8 state:

9           1. Is being investigated for or has been arrested in relation  
10 to offenses against students; or

11           2. Has been charged with offenses against students,  
12 the law enforcement agency involved in the investigation, arrest, or  
13 charging shall notify the superintendent of the employing school  
14 district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school  
15 and the members of the board of education of the employing school  
16 district or the members of the governing board of the employing  
17 public charter school or public virtual charter school.

18       C. 1. Upon receiving a notification as provided for in  
19 subsection B of this section, the board of education of the  
20 employing school district or the governing board of the employing  
21 public charter school or public virtual charter school shall suspend  
22 the school employee without notice or hearing pending the outcome of  
23 the law enforcement investigation. The suspension shall not deprive  
24 the employee of any compensation or other benefits to which he or

1       she is otherwise entitled. The employee shall not be allowed on  
2       school premises during the term of suspension.

3       2. In a case involving a criminal charge or indictment, the  
4       suspension may extend until the case for the employee is adjudicated  
5       at trial. The extension shall not include any appeal process.

6       3. During the term of suspension, the employee shall be  
7       prohibited from submitting his or her resignation.

8       D. Upon receiving a notification as provided for in subsection  
9       B of this section, the superintendent of the employing school  
10       district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school  
11       shall notify the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in  
12       the school district, public charter school, or public virtual  
13       charter school. The notification shall include a statement  
14       explaining that the school employee is presumed innocent until and  
15       unless proven guilty.

16       E. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to  
17       implement the provisions of this section.

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

19       SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
20       of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
21       declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
22       be in full force from and after its passage and approval.