

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

HOUSE BILL 3327

By: Osburn

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the State Board of Education; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-101, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 3-101), which relates to board member appointments; increasing the number of board members; changing the appointing authority for some members; establishing for-cause removal procedures; eliminating reference to service at the pleasure of the Governor; modifying vacancy procedures; vacating current members; directing initial appointments; providing initial appointment terms; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-101, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 3-101), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-101. A. The State Board of Education shall consist of ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) members. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be a member and the chairperson of the Board. ~~The remaining six members shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Except as otherwise provided~~

1 ~~for in subsection B of this section, upon assuming office each~~
2 ~~Governor shall appoint one member from each congressional district~~
3 ~~and one member from the state at large. Four members shall be~~
4 ~~appointed by the Governor, two members shall be appointed by the~~
5 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, and two members shall be~~
6 ~~appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Each~~
7 ~~appointment shall be made to take effect on April 2. The term of~~
8 ~~each appointed member shall be four (4) years. Appointed members~~
9 ~~shall serve until a successor is appointed. Appointed members shall~~
10 ~~serve at the pleasure of the Governor only be removed for cause by~~
11 ~~their appointing authority. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy the~~
12 ~~same shall be filled by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the~~
13 ~~Senate at the next session of the Legislature in the same manner as~~
14 ~~the original appointment. The appointment to fill a vacancy shall~~
15 ~~be made for the unexpired term.~~

16 B. On the effective date of this act, all appointed positions
17 of the current State Board of Education shall be deemed vacant and
18 the terms of persons serving on the Board shall be deemed
19 terminated. The Governor, the Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore shall each make their
21 initial appointments pursuant to the provisions of this subsection
22 within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act, ~~with one~~
23 ~~member appointed from each congressional district and one member~~
24 ~~appointed from the state at large. The appointments shall be~~

1 ~~subject to confirmation by the Senate at the next session of the~~
2 ~~Legislature.~~ The terms for members appointed pursuant to this
3 subsection shall terminate on April 2, ~~2015~~ 2030. Thereafter,
4 members shall be appointed as provided for in subsection A of this
5 section.

6 C. No person shall be eligible to be appointed to serve on the
7 Board unless the person has been awarded a high school diploma or
8 certificate of high school equivalency. No person shall be
9 appointed to serve on the Board if the person serves on a board of
10 education of a school district which is supervised by the Board
11 pursuant to Section 3-104 of this title. Any member appointed to
12 the Board shall complete the workshop requirements of a new school
13 board member pursuant to Section 5-110 of this title within thirteen
14 (13) months following or preceding the appointment of the member.
15 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State
16 Department of Education shall not charge any member of the State
17 Board of Education a fee for any workshop provided by the Department
18 for board members pursuant to Section 5-110 of this title and shall
19 not pay a fee to any organization or institution of higher education
20 on behalf of a member of the State Board of Education, or reimburse
21 any member of the Board for a fee paid to any organization or
22 institution of higher education, for attendance at a workshop or
23 courses to satisfy the requirements of Section 5-110 of this title.

1 D. Members of the Board shall receive necessary traveling
2 expenses while in the performance of their duties in accordance with
3 the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

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

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

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