

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 224

By: Seifried of the Senate

and

Caldwell (Chad) and **Waldron**
of the House

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10 [legislative intent - data system - duties -
11 Governance Council - committees - data-sharing
12 agreement - grants and funding - promulgation of
13 rules - noncodification - codification - effective
14 date -

emergency]

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
17 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

18 A. It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure educational
19 excellence in this state by making informed decisions in support of
20 students in this state, their education, and the future
21 contributions they will make to the workforce.

22 B. The Legislature finds that a responsible government ensures
23 that taxpayer dollars are expended in the manner directed by the
24

1 Legislature and are providing a return on investment for Oklahoma's
2 future.

3 C. To protect the hard-earned dollars of taxpayers in this
4 state, the Legislature must be able to comprehensively evaluate
5 student and workforce data to make decisions and reforms where
6 necessary while safeguarding the confidential information of
7 Oklahomans.

8 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-180 of Title 70, unless there
10 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Education and Workforce
12 Efficiency Data System (EDS) as a secure system for the de-
13 identification, exchange, and matching of education and workforce
14 data among approved entities. The purpose of the EDS shall be to
15 provide state agencies, legislators, and other approved users with
16 access to de-identified data on early childhood education,
17 elementary and secondary education, workforce training, and
18 employment outcomes to improve education and workforce outcomes and
19 increase the return on investment for taxpayer funds.

20 B. The EDS shall have the ability to:

21 1. Access, ingest, integrate, and transform a variety of data
22 types to and from the Oklahoma Workforce Commission, the Oklahoma
23 Department of Career and Technology Education, the State Department
24 of Education, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC),

1 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Regional
2 University System of Oklahoma (RUSO), the Office of Educational
3 Quality and Accountability (OEQA), and any other agency that
4 collects critical employment or education data;

5 2. Be designed to allow additional agencies to integrate their
6 data in the future;

7 3. Implement identity management capabilities to create unique
8 identifiers to restrict personally identifiable information while
9 linking early childhood education, elementary and secondary
10 education, postsecondary education, and workforce data;

11 4. Enable data governance, auditing, and tracking of data edits
12 and changes by authorized users;

13 5. Support advanced analytics capabilities including, but not
14 limited to, artificial intelligence, machine learning, forecasting,
15 and data mining, as well as the use of business intelligence tools
16 such as data visualization and dashboards; and

17 6. Ensure compliance with the Family Educational Rights and
18 Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the Student Data Accessibility,
19 Transparency and Accountability Act of 2013, and other applicable
20 privacy laws.

21 C. The EDS shall not:

22 1. Serve the same purpose as the state student identification
23 system required by subsection E of Section 18-200.1 of Title 70 of
24 the Oklahoma Statutes;

1 2. Directly report data to federal agencies; provided, however,
2 state agencies participating in the EDS may use matched data from
3 the EDS to fulfill federally mandated reporting requirements
4 including, but not limited to, compliance with the Workforce
5 Innovation and Opportunity Act, the Carl D. Perkins Career and
6 Technical Education Act of 2006 as reauthorized by the Strengthening
7 Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, the
8 Workforce Data Quality Initiative, and other workforce- and
9 education-related federal grant programs. Any data used for such
10 purposes shall be de-identified or aggregated before submission,
11 unless federal law explicitly requires otherwise; or

12 3. Collect personal data including, but not limited to, the
13 religion of an individual and his or her parent or legal guardian;
14 the political affiliation of an individual and his or her parent or
15 legal guardian; the health insurance status of an individual and his
16 or her parent or legal guardian; and medical information relating to
17 an individual and his or her parent or legal guardian.

18 D. The EDS shall provide controlled access to approved external
19 partners including researchers or vendors, ensuring compliance with
20 privacy protections. Data access shall be granted through a formal
21 data-sharing agreement submitted to the Efficiency Data System
22 Governance Council created pursuant to Section 3 of this act, with
23 guidelines on usage and restrictions to safeguard personally
24 identifiable information.

1 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-181 of Title 70, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. There is hereby created the Efficiency Data System
5 Governance Council to oversee the development, implementation, and
6 operation of the Oklahoma Education and Workforce Efficiency Data
7 System (EDS) created pursuant to Section 2 of this act. The Council
8 may create committees, as needed, to delegate and carry out its
9 duties.

10 B. The Council shall be comprised of nine (9) voting members as
11 follows:

12 1. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Workforce Commission,
13 or his or her designee;

14 2. The Chancellor of Higher Education, or his or her designee;

15 3. The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Career and
16 Technology Education, or his or her designee;

17 4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or his or her
18 designee;

19 5. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security
20 Commission, or his or her designee;

21 6. The Executive Director of the Office of Educational Quality
22 and Accountability, or his or her designee;

23 7. The Chief Executive Officer of the Regional University
24 System of Oklahoma (RUSO), or his or her designee;

1 8. One data privacy and security expert who is familiar with
2 the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the
3 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996,
4 and national privacy standards, appointed by the Commission for
5 Educational Quality and Accountability; and

6 9. One member of the public with expertise in workforce or
7 education policy, data analysis, or government efficiency, appointed
8 by the Governor.

9 C. The Efficiency Data System Governance Council may include
10 non-voting members from additional state agencies, institutions of
11 higher education, or stakeholder groups as needed to provide
12 subject-matter expertise.

13 D. The Efficiency Data System Governance Council shall:

14 1. Oversee all aspects of data governance including approving
15 data access policies, privacy standards, and data-sharing
16 agreements;

17 2. Identify and prioritize critical data elements and datasets
18 for initial integration in the system by June 30, 2026;

19 3. Outline a process to approve and onboard new agencies to the
20 EDS;

21 4. Select a vendor for the development and maintenance of the
22 EDS, ensuring the vendor meets the system requirements and technical
23 specifications approved by the Efficiency Data System Governance
24 Council by June 30, 2026. Funding and procurement responsibilities

1 shall be assigned to the Commission for Educational Quality and
2 Accountability, with the EDS housed within the Office of Educational
3 Quality and Accountability;

4 5. Electronically submit an annual progress report to the
5 Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker
6 of the House of Representatives summarizing the progress of the EDS,
7 completed milestones, next steps, challenges, and recommendations
8 for improvements. The first report shall be submitted by June 30,
9 2026; and

10 6. Ensure the EDS is operational and includes critical datasets
11 no later than June 30, 2027.

12 E. By June 30, 2026, each agency participating in the EDS shall
13 enter into a data-sharing agreement with the Efficiency Data System
14 Governance Council. The agreement shall include:

- 15 1. Data-sharing protocols;
- 16 2. Data elements shared;
- 17 3. Data elements requested;
- 18 4. Roles and responsibilities for the participating agency and
19 the Council; and
- 20 5. Privacy and security standards.

21 F. The EDS shall be funded through:

- 22 1. State appropriations provided to the Office of Educational
23 Quality and Accountability for the specific purpose of procuring and
24 maintaining the EDS;

1 2. Federal grants including, but not limited to, funding
2 opportunities from the Workforce Data Quality Initiative or other
3 federal programs;

4 3. Cost-sharing agreements or user fees approved by the
5 Efficiency Data System Governance Council; and

6 4. Public or private sources, provided such funds are
7 consistent with the purpose and goal of the EDS.

8 G. The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability
9 may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act.

10 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

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16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
17 04/17/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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