

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 17, 2026

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 1733

By: Thompson of the Senate

and

Lawson of the House

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9 An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1,
10 Chapter 297, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section
11 6-401), which relates to student communications;
12 requiring immediate notification to law enforcement
13 of certain violation; updating statutory language;
14 requiring public and private school employees to
15 report certain disclosure, allegation, or information
16 to law enforcement within certain time period;
17 clarifying term; requiring certain officer to submit
18 certain report under certain circumstances; requiring
19 certain report to law enforcement prior to certain
20 investigation or questioning; prohibiting school
21 personnel from taking certain actions until law
22 enforcement has been notified; providing exception;
23 requiring certain information to be kept confidential
24 or redacted; requiring public and private school
employees to annually sign certain attestation;
providing certain construction; providing for
codification; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 297, O.S.L.
2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 6-401), is amended to read as
follows:

1 Section 6-401. A. As used in this section:

2 1. "Electronic or digital communication" includes, but is not
3 limited to, emails, text messages, instant messages, direct
4 messages, social media messages, messages sent through software
5 applications, and any other electronic digital means of
6 communication; and

7 2. "School personnel" means teachers, coaches, administrators,
8 school bus drivers, or any other persons employed full-time or part-
9 time by a public school or charter school.

10 B. School personnel engaging in electronic or digital
11 communication with an individual student shall include the student's
12 parent or legal guardian in any electronic or digital communication,
13 unless such communication is on a school-approved platform and
14 related to school and academic communications.

15 C. Exceptions to the requirement in subsection B of this
16 section may be made in case of an emergency, subject to subsequent
17 notification to the parent or legal guardian. School personnel
18 shall make reasonable efforts to use school-approved platforms,
19 systems, or applications that allow automatic inclusion of parents
20 or legal guardians in communications with students.

21 D. Schools shall provide training, developed by the State
22 Department of Education, for school personnel on the student
23 communication requirements of this section.
24

1 E. Any school personnel who is reported to be in violation of
2 subsection B of this section shall be put on administrative leave
3 while the school district investigates the incident and notifies the
4 board of education. If the investigation finds that no misconduct
5 occurred, the school personnel shall be reinstated and the incident
6 shall be noted in the school personnel's employee file. If the
7 investigation finds misconduct occurred, the school personnel shall
8 be disciplined according to the school district board of education's
9 policy, up to and including termination of employment, ~~and the~~
10 ~~incident shall be reported to law enforcement pursuant to Section~~
11 ~~1210.163 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.~~

12 F. A school district or charter school shall immediately notify
13 law enforcement of any violation of subsection B of this section
14 pursuant to Section 1210.163 of this title.

15 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.164 of Title 70, unless
17 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. 1. In addition to any report required pursuant to Section
19 1210.163 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, every public and
20 private school employee having reason to believe, or receiving an
21 allegation or disclosure, that a student is the victim of sexual
22 abuse, sexual assault, or sexual misconduct, shall report the
23 disclosure, allegation, or information within twenty-four (24) hours
24 to local law enforcement.

1 2. For the purposes of this section, local law enforcement
2 means a law enforcement agency that is independent of the public
3 school district or private school and shall not include a school
4 resource officer employed by the public school district or private
5 school unless directed by the independent law enforcement agency.
6 When a school resource officer is utilized pursuant to this
7 subsection, the officer shall submit a written report describing the
8 circumstances and any actions taken to the independent law
9 enforcement agency.

10 B. 1. Any disclosure or allegation made pursuant to this
11 section shall be reported to law enforcement prior to any
12 investigation by the public school district or its board of
13 education or the private school or its governing body or questioning
14 of the subject of the disclosure or allegation.

15 2. No school investigator, administrator, or official shall
16 conduct interviews of the subject of the disclosure or allegation or
17 engage in disciplinary proceedings until law enforcement has been
18 notified and has had the opportunity to interview the involved
19 parties, unless law enforcement determines that an immediate school
20 response is necessary to protect student safety.

21 C. In reports required by subsection A of this section, local
22 law enforcement shall keep confidential and redact any information
23 identifying the reporting school employee unless otherwise ordered
24 by the court. A school employee with knowledge of a report required

1 by subsection A of this section shall not disclose information
2 identifying the reporting school employee unless otherwise ordered
3 by the court or as part of an investigation by local law enforcement
4 or the State Department of Education.

5 D. In addition to the attestation required by Section 1210.163
6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, every public and private
7 school employee shall annually sign an attestation acknowledging his
8 or her responsibility to report suspected child abuse or neglect
9 pursuant to this section. Failure to sign an attestation shall not
10 relieve school personnel from the obligations created in this
11 section or Section 1210.163 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
12 nor shall such failure constitute a defense to criminal liability
13 arising under Section 1-2-101 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes.

14 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

15 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
16 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 17, 2026 - DO PASS AS AMENDED BY CS
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