

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE BILL 4288

By: Fugate

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; authorizing the
8 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
9 Services to create an alternative education pilot
10 program for certain suspended students; stating
11 applicability; providing program requirements;
allowing students to continue the program after
suspension; allowing school district to create a plan
for student reintegration; directing allocation of
available funds; and providing an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.568a of Title 70, unless
17 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
19 is hereby authorized to establish a pilot program to provide
20 alternative education to students who are suspended out-of-school
21 for more than fourteen (14) days. The Department shall design the
22 program in accordance with alternative education program
23 requirements listed in Section 1210.568 of this title.

1 B. The program created in subsection A of this section shall
2 incorporate therapy and other restorative practices into the
3 student's daily instruction.

4 C. Students participating in the program shall have the option
5 to continue the program after their out-of-school suspension
6 conditions have been met, or their suspension time has expired. In
7 addition to the education plan for reintegration to core units
8 required under subsection D of Section 24-101.3 of this title,
9 school districts may adopt a plan to help students reintegrate into
10 elective classes, extracurricular activities, and other school
11 programs when they have completed their out-of-school suspension.

12 D. Of the funding available for alternative education programs
13 each fiscal year, the State Department of Education shall designate
14 up to ten percent (10%) for the program established in subsection A
15 of this section based on student participation.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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