

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 285

By: Ford and Mazzei of the
Senate

6 and

7 Coody (Ann) of the House

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
12 Section 3-162, which relates to information requested
of parents upon initial enrollment of a student;
13 modifying name of certain program; amending 70 O.S.
2011, Section 10-105.3, which relates to the
14 development and implementation of parent education
programs; changing certain duties and functions from
15 the State Board of Education to the State Department
of Education; allowing the Department to provide
16 certain technical assistance; modifying certain
functions; changing the Parents as Teachers Program
17 name; modifying certain report; amending 70 O.S.
2011, Section 11-103.7, which relates to early
18 childhood education programs; directing the State
Board of Education to align standards for early
19 childhood education programs with certain standards;
and providing an effective date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 3-162, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 Section 3-162. A. Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year,
2 upon initial enrollment in a public school district, the school
3 shall request the parent or guardian of a student to provide
4 information to the school district regarding participation in the
5 following:

6 1. A childcare program that is licensed pursuant to the tiered
7 licensing system established by the Department of Human Services;

8 2. The Sooner Start program operated by the State Department of
9 Education;

10 3. The ~~Oklahoma Parents as Teachers~~ program of parent education
11 operated by the State Department of Education pursuant to Section
12 10-105.3 of this title;

13 4. The Children First program operated by the State Department
14 of Health;

15 5. Any child abuse prevention program operated by the State
16 Department of Health;

17 6. Any federally funded Head Start program; and

18 7. Any other early childhood program funded by state or federal
19 monies as determined by the State Board of Education.

20 B. The State Department of Education shall verify the accuracy
21 of the information provided by the parents or guardians pursuant to
22 subsection A of this section with the appropriate agency. Each
23 agency shall cooperate and provide verifying data to the Department.

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1 C. The State Department of Education shall develop state data
2 elements and codes for each program identified pursuant to
3 subsection A of this section for use in the statewide student record
4 system program, which shall be used to provide effective reporting
5 and research on the identified programs. The codes shall be entered
6 into the statewide student record system program upon initial
7 enrollment of a student.

8 D. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement
9 the provisions of this section.

10 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 10-105.3, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Section 10-105.3 A. The State ~~Board~~ Department of Education
13 shall develop and implement a program of parent education which
14 provides practical information and guidance to parents regarding the
15 development of language, cognition, social skills, and motor
16 development of young children. The program shall be phased in so
17 that services will be available to parents of children under age
18 three (3) in school districts identified by the ~~Board~~ Department as
19 having the greatest numbers of children whose education is
20 considered to be high challenge. As funds are available, ~~beginning~~
21 ~~with the 1992-93 school year,~~ the ~~Board~~ Department shall expand the
22 program so that services will be available to the school sites
23 identified by the ~~Board~~ Department as having the greatest percentage
24 of children qualifying for the free or reduced school lunch program.

1 The ~~Board~~ Department shall expand the program each year if funding
2 is available to ensure that a parent education program is available
3 to all school districts. In evaluating new funding requests,
4 priority consideration shall be given to programs demonstrating the
5 greatest need combined with the greatest commitment of community,
6 foundation, and corporate support.

7 B. The program shall emphasize the importance of the parents of
8 children as a child's first and most influential teachers. The
9 parent education programs currently offered in other states should
10 be examined as possible models for the Oklahoma program.

11 C. The State ~~Board~~ Department of Education shall provide or
12 contract with an organization to provide for technical assistance
13 for a field operations center to coordinate the Oklahoma Parents as
14 Teachers Program training and implementation of the program of
15 parent education developed by the Department pursuant to subsection
16 A of this section. To be eligible for a technical assistance
17 contract, an applicant ~~must~~ shall be an affiliate member of a
18 national organization or association providing parent education
19 training, ~~must~~ have at least two (2) years' experience in
20 implementation of a ~~Parents as Teachers Program~~ program of parent
21 education which provides practical information and guidance to
22 parents, and ~~must~~ have at least one staff member with a degree above
23 the baccalaureate level who has expertise in Child Development or
24 Early Childhood Education. Technical assistance shall include

1 assistance with training on program organization, management,
2 implementation, and fundraising techniques for groups seeking to
3 implement ~~Parents as Teachers Programs~~ a program of parent education
4 and existing ~~Parents as Teachers Programs~~ parent education programs
5 throughout the state. The technical assistance provider shall
6 compile a report, utilizing data collected from the State Department
7 of Education ~~and the Child Service Demonstration Center,~~ on the
8 status of ~~Parents as Teachers Programs~~ parent education programs
9 operating pursuant to this section in Oklahoma, including the
10 locations and descriptions of the programs, the sources of funding
11 for the programs, and pending applications for funding. The report
12 shall be filed on or before April 1 of each year with the Governor,
13 the Legislature, and the State Board of Education.

14 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 11-103.7, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 11-103.7 A. Each school district may offer to four-
17 year-old children the opportunity to participate in an early
18 childhood education program.

19 B. The State Board of Education shall promulgate standards for
20 early childhood education programs for children who are at least
21 four (4) years of age on or before September 1 of the ensuing school
22 year. The standards shall include both half-day programs consisting
23 of not less than two and one-half (2 1/2) hours per school day, and
24 full-day programs of six (6) hours. The standards for all early

1 childhood education programs shall require a certified teacher, as
2 specified in this section, to be present in the classroom for the
3 length of the school day. Such program shall:

4 1. Be directed toward developmentally appropriate objectives
5 for such children, rather than toward academic objectives suitable
6 for older children;

7 2. Accommodate the needs of all children and families
8 regardless of socioeconomic circumstances; and

9 3. Require that any teacher employed by a public school to
10 teach in such early childhood education program shall be certified
11 in early childhood education.

12 C. The superintendent of any school district providing
13 classroom space or other school facilities for a federally sponsored
14 Head Start program that is planning to make a material change in the
15 arrangement, shall give notice to the director of the Head Start
16 program at least seven (7) days prior to a school board hearing on
17 the matter.

18 D. A school district may offer such early childhood education
19 program within the district, in cooperation with other districts,
20 through the use of transfers as specified by law, or by contracting
21 with a private or public provider of early childhood education
22 programs, or by contracting for classroom space with a licensed
23 public or private child care provider based upon selection criteria
24 established by the district. If the program is provided through

1 contract with a private or public provider other than a school
2 district, the contract may only be continued if each teacher serving
3 the school on and after January 1, 1993, is certified in early
4 childhood education, except that all teachers, without such
5 certification, hired by such provider prior to January 1, 1993, and
6 serving in the school as an early childhood education teacher shall
7 be required to obtain certification on or before the beginning of
8 the 1996-97 school year. Any person who has been employed as an
9 early childhood educator with the Head Start Program, has a child
10 development associate degree (CDA) and has at least five (5) years
11 of experience in such employment shall be certified in early
12 childhood education for purposes of employment in the public schools
13 of this state to teach in early childhood education for children
14 four (4) years of age and younger; if such person is recertified in
15 child development by the Council for Early Childhood Professional
16 Recognition within five (5) years prior to the expiration of the
17 person's early childhood certificate that was issued by the State
18 Board of Education, such person shall be granted a renewal
19 certificate in early childhood education by the State Board of
20 Education upon expiration of the early childhood certificate.
21 Provided, private or public providers shall meet such other
22 standards required by law and by the State Board of Education.

23 E. If an early childhood program is provided by a private or
24 public provider pursuant to a contract as authorized in this

1 section, the contract shall address the requirements for
2 implementing the residency program for resident teachers as required
3 in Section 6-195 of this title. Teachers employed by a private or
4 public provider in an early childhood education program provided
5 through contract with a public school district shall receive in
6 salary and/or fringe benefits amounts not less than the amounts
7 specified in the schedule set forth in Section ~~18-114.7~~ 18-114.14 of
8 this title.

9 F. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to
10 provide for the implementation of such program.

11 G. An early childhood education program may be offered jointly
12 by school districts that have formed interlocal cooperative
13 agreements pursuant to Section 5-117b of this title.

14 H. The term "~~pre-kindergarten~~" "prekindergarten" shall mean
15 early childhood education for purposes of this title.

16 I. The State Board of Education shall ensure that the standards
17 for early childhood education are aligned with any new subject
18 matter standards adopted pursuant to Section 11-103.6a of this
19 title.

20 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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