

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 337

By: Roberts, Robinson and
Williams of the Senate

and

Boyd (Betty) of the House

An Act relating to schools; providing for the establishment of the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program; requiring the State Board of Education to promulgate rules; providing for administration; stating purpose and components of program; providing definitions; providing for certain financial incentives contingent upon the provision of designated funds; authorizing the State Board of Education to make financial incentive awards; setting procedure; directing the State Board of Education to ensure state participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress; requiring reporting of results; requiring the State Board of Education to make recommendations to expand the performance standards on certain state tests; amending Section 2, Chapter 215, O.S.L. 1996 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 18-113.4), which relates to class size limitations; amending calculation of class size penalties; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.701 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to establish the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program, to be administered by the State Department of Education as provided in this act. The purpose of the program is to establish, organize, and administer a program designed to improve the course offerings available to high school students throughout the state and to prepare students for admission to and success in a postsecondary educational environment. The Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program shall consist of the following components:

1. Financial assistance to public school teachers and schools to build and maintain successful Advanced Placement Programs; and
2. Test fee assistance to public school students in financial need.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.702 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

For purposes of the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program:

1. "Advanced placement course" means a high school level preparatory course for a college advanced placement test that incorporates all topics specified by the College Board and the Educational Testing Service on its standard syllabus for a given subject area and is approved by the College Board;
2. "Advanced placement test" means the advanced placement test administered by the College Board and Educational Testing Service;
3. "College Board" means the College Board and Educational Testing Service;
4. "Department" means the State Department of Education; and
5. "Program" means the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.703 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Contingent upon the provision of appropriated funds designated for the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program, the State Board of Education is hereby authorized to award schools:

1. A one-time equipment and/or instructional materials grant for the purpose of providing an advanced placement course, based on criteria established by the Department;
2. Subsidized training for advanced placement courses in a form, manner and time prescribed by the Department;
3. One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each score of three or better on an advanced placement test; provided, these funds shall be used for the purpose of Advanced Placement Program development; and
4. For those students who demonstrate financial need as defined by the College Board, a share of the advanced placement test fee.

B. Upon completion of the test, the State Department of Education shall obtain from the College Board a list of students in Oklahoma who scored a three or higher on the test. Financial incentives for schools provided in this section shall be awarded at the beginning of the school year following the school year in which the test was taken.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.513 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

In order to assist in the nation's evaluation of the condition and progress of education, and in order to provide comparative interstate information on student performance, beginning July 1, 1997, the State Board of Education shall ensure the participation of the Oklahoma public school system in the National Assessment of

Educational Progress. The results of this assessment shall be included as a separate result in annual reports on the Oklahoma State Testing Program.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.514 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The State Board of Education shall evaluate and make recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 1997, to revise the performance standards for the criterion-referenced tests required in the Oklahoma State Testing Program.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 215, O.S.L. 1996 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 18-113.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 18-113.4 Beginning with the 1997-98 school year, the penalties for exceeding class size limitations established in Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2 and 18-113.3 of this title shall not apply if the class size limitations, as set forth in said sections, are exceeded beginning after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. If the class size limitations are exceeded during the first nine (9) weeks, the penalties shall apply. For the purposes of calculating class size penalties established in Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2 and 18-113.3 of this title, school districts shall use only the full-time-equivalency of the instructional staff who are under contract to work the full school year in question.

SECTION 7. This act shall become effective July 1, 1997.

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