SEN	NATE CHAMBER STATE OF OKLAHOMA	DISPOSITION
FLOOR AMENDMENT	No	·
	E	(Date)
I move to amend Senate Bill No. the title, enacting clause, and entire bo	1621, by substituting the attached floor sub ody of the measure.	bstitute (Request # 3744) for
	Submitted by:	
I hereby grant permission for the floor	Senator Pugh	
Senator Pugh, Chair (required)	Senator Merrie	menul
Senator Pemberton	Senator Newh	ouse
Senator Dahm	Senator Quinn	A 9-1
Senator Dossett (J.J.)	Senator Stanle	Harhan
Senator Dossett (J.A.)	Senator Taylor	M
Senator Hicks		
Senator Treat, President Pro Tempore	Senator McCo Leader	rtney, Majority Floor

Note: Education committee majority requires seven (7) members' signatures.

I hereby grant permission for the floor substitute to be adopted.

Senator Thompson

Appropriations Committee Chair

Pugh-EB-FS-SE	31621
3/22/2022 4:40	

(Floor Amendments Only)	Date and Time Filed: $3 - 22$	-22 6:08 pm Jd
Untimely	Amendment Cycle Extended	Secondary Amendment

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)
3	FLOOR SUBSTITUTE FOR
4	SENATE BILL NO. 1621 By: Pugh of the Senate
5	and
6	Caldwell (Chad) of the House
7	nouse
8	
9	FLOOR SUBSTITUTE
10	[ charter schools - Statewide Charter School Board - Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund -
11	repealers - codification - effective dates -
12	emergency ]
13	
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 3-132.1 of Title 70, unless
17	there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
18	A. There is hereby created the Statewide Charter School Board.
19	Beginning July 1, 2023, the Board shall have the sole authority to
20	authorize and sponsor statewide virtual charter schools in this
21	state and may authorize and sponsor charter schools in this state.
22	The Board shall be composed of nine (9) voting members as follows:
23	1. Three members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall
24	be a retired public school administrator, one of whom shall have

1 experience in financial management, and one of whom shall be a
2 member of a federally recognized Indian tribe;

2. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a retired public charter school teacher and one of whom shall be someone with executive-level business experience who lives in a county with a population of more than one hundred thousand (100,000) according to the latest Federal Decennial Census;

9 3. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives, one of whom shall be a retired public school
11 teacher and one of whom shall be someone with executive-level
12 business experience who lives in a county with a population of less
13 than one hundred thousand (100,000) according to the latest Federal
14 Decennial Census;

4. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her
 designee; and

17 5. The State Auditor and Inspector or his or her designee.

Initial appointments shall be made by August 31, 2022. 18 в. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of 19 Representatives shall each appoint one member for one (1) year and 20 one member for two (2) years. The Governor shall appoint one member 21 for one (1) year and two members for two (2) years. Members shall 22 serve until their successors are duly appointed for a term of three 23 (3) years. Appointments shall be made by and take effect on July 31 24

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1 of the year in which the appointment is made. Annually by December 30 the Board shall elect from its membership a chair and vice chair. 2 C. A member may be removed from the Board by the appointing 3 authority for cause which shall include, but not be limited to: 4 5 1. Being found quilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or any offense involving moral turpitude; 6 2. Being found guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or 7 nonfeasance in relation to Board duties; 8 9 3. Being found mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction; or 10 4. Failing to attend three successive meetings of the Board 11 12 without just cause, as determined by the Board. D. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority. 13 No member of the Senate or House of Representatives may be Ε. 14 appointed to the Board while serving as a member of the Legislature, 15 or for two (2) full years following the expiration of the term of 16 office. 17 Members of the Statewide Charter School Board shall not F. 18 receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary travel 19 expenses pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel 20 Reimbursement Act. 21

G. The Statewide Charter School Board shall meet at the call of the chair. The first meeting of the Board shall be held no later than sixty (60) days after the effective date of this act.

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H. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum, and an
 affirmative vote of at least five members shall be required for the
 Board to take any final action.

I. Beginning July 1, 2023, statewide virtual charter schools 4 5 shall be sponsored only by the Statewide Charter School Board created pursuant to this section. Effective July 1, 2023, the 6 Statewide Charter School Board shall succeed to any contractual 7 rights and responsibilities incurred by the Statewide Virtual 8 9 Charter School Board in a virtual charter school sponsorship contract executed prior to July 1, 2023. All property, equipment, 10 supplies, records, assets, current and future liabilities, 11 encumbrances, obligations, and indebtedness associated with a 12 13 virtual charter school sponsorship contract entered into by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board prior to July 1, 2023, shall 14 be transferred to the Statewide Charter School Board. Appropriate 15 conveyances and other documents shall be executed to effectuate the 16 17 transfer of property associated with a sponsorship contract. Upon succession of sponsorship contracts, the Statewide Charter School 18 Board shall assume sponsorship of the virtual charter schools for 19 the remainder of the term of the contracts. Prior to the end of the 20 current term of the contract, the Statewide Charter School Board 21 shall allow a virtual charter school to apply for renewal of the 22 sponsorship contract in accordance with the renewal procedures 23

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established pursuant to Section 3-137 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma
 Statutes.

J. Effective July 1, 2023, the Statewide Charter School Board 3 shall succeed to any contractual rights and responsibilities 4 5 incurred by the State Board of Education in a charter school sponsorship contract executed prior to July 1, 2023. All property, 6 equipment, supplies, records, assets, current and future 7 liabilities, encumbrances, obligations, and indebtedness associated 8 9 with a charter school sponsorship contract entered into by the State Board of Education prior to July 1, 2023, shall be transferred to 10 the Statewide Charter School Board. Appropriate conveyances and 11 other documents shall be executed to effectuate the transfer of 12 property associated with a sponsorship contract. Upon succession of 13 sponsorship contracts, the Statewide Charter School Board shall 14 assume sponsorship of the charter schools for the remainder of the 15 term of the contracts. Prior to the end of the current term of the 16 contract, the Statewide Charter School Board shall allow a charter 17 school to apply for renewal of the sponsorship contract in 18 accordance with the renewal procedures established pursuant to 19 Section 3-137 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. 20

K. Beginning July 1, 2023, prior to the end of the current term of a charter school sponsorship contract with a school district, an accredited comprehensive or regional institution that is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, a community college,

or a federally recognized Indian tribe, a charter school may apply
 to the Statewide Charter School Board for sponsorship.

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-132.2 of Title 70, unless
5 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Beginning July 1, 2023, and subject to the requirements of
the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, the Statewide Charter School Board
shall:

9 1. Provide general oversight of the operations of all charter10 schools in this state;

Provide supervision and oversight of the operations of
 statewide virtual charter schools in this state and charter schools
 for which the Statewide Charter School Board is the sponsor,
 recommend legislation pertaining to charter schools to the
 Legislature, and promulgate rules and policies that the Board deems
 necessary to accomplish the purposes prescribed in this section;

Establish a procedure for accepting, approving, and
 disapproving charter school and statewide virtual charter school
 applications and a process for renewal or revocation of approved
 charter contracts which minimally meet the procedures set forth in
 the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act;

4. Hire an executive director and other staff for itsoperation;

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1 5. Prepare a budget for expenditures necessary for the proper maintenance of the Board and accomplishment of its purpose; 2 6. Comply with the requirements of the Oklahoma Open Meeting 3 Act and Oklahoma Open Records Act; and 4 5 7. Give priority to opening charter schools and virtual charter schools that serve at-risk student populations or students from low-6 performing traditional public schools. 7 B. 1. For purposes of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, 8 "charter school" means: 9 prior to July 1, 2023, a public school established by 10 a. contract with a school district board of education, a 11 technology center school district, a higher education 12 institution, a federally recognized Indian tribe, or 13 the State Board of Education, and 14 b. on July 1, 2023, and after, a public school 15 established by contract with a school district board 16 of education, a higher education institution, a 17 federally recognized Indian tribe, or the Statewide 18 Charter School Board, 19 to provide learning that will improve student achievement and as 20 defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 21 U.S.C. 8065. 22 23 24

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2. A charter school may consist of a new school site, new
 2 school sites, or all or any portion of an existing school site. An
 3 entire school district may not become a charter school site.

C. 1. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act,
"conversion school" means a school created by converting all or any
part of a traditional public school in order to access any or all
flexibilities afforded to a charter school; provided, however, all
or any part of a traditional public school may not be converted to a
virtual charter school.

Prior to the board of education of a school district 10 2. converting all or any part of a traditional public school to a 11 12 conversion school, the board shall prepare a conversion plan. The 13 conversion plan shall include documentation that demonstrates and complies with paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 14 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 34, and 35 of subsection B of Section 3-134 15 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The conversion plan and all 16 documents shall be in writing and shall be available to the public 17 pursuant to the requirements of the Oklahoma Open Records Act. All 18 votes by the board of education of a school district to approve a 19 conversion plan shall be held in an open public session. If the 20 board of education of a school district votes to approve a 21 conversion plan, the board shall notify the State Board of Education 22 within sixty (60) days after the vote. The notification shall 23

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1 include a copy of the minutes for the board meeting at which the 2 conversion plan was approved.

A conversion school shall comply with all the same 3 3. accountability measures as are required of a charter school as 4 5 defined in subsection B of this section. The provisions of Sections 3-140 and 3-142 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall not apply 6 to a conversion school. Conversion schools shall comply with the 7 same laws and State Board of Education rules relating to student 8 9 enrollment which apply to traditional public schools. Conversion schools shall be funded by the board of education of the school 10 district as a school site within the school district and funding 11 shall not be affected by the conversion of the school. 12

4. The board of education of a school district may vote to
revert a conversion school back to a traditional public school at
any time; provided, the change shall only occur during a break
between school years.

5. Unless otherwise provided for in this subsection, a
conversion school shall retain the characteristics of a traditional
public school.

D. 1. Beginning July 1, 2023, the Statewide Charter School Board shall make publicly available a list of supplemental online courses which have been reviewed and certified by the Board to ensure that the courses are high quality options and are aligned with the subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of

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1 Education pursuant to Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma 2 Statutes. The Statewide Charter School Board shall give special emphasis on listing supplemental online courses in science, 3 technology, engineering, and math (STEM), foreign language, and 4 5 advanced placement courses. School districts shall not be limited to selecting supplemental online courses that have been reviewed and 6 certified by the Statewide Charter School Board and listed as 7 provided for in this paragraph. 8

9 2. In conjunction with the Office of Management and Enterprise 10 Services, the Board shall negotiate and enter into contracts with 11 supplemental online course providers to offer a state rate price to 12 school districts for supplemental online courses that have been 13 reviewed and certified by the Statewide Charter School Board and 14 listed as provided for in this subsection.

NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 15 SECTION 3. in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-132.3 of Title 70, unless 16 17 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund 18 for the Statewide Charter School Board to be designated the 19 "Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund". The fund shall be 20 a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall 21 consist of all monies received by the Statewide Charter School Board 22 from state appropriations. All monies accruing to the credit of the 23 fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the 24

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Statewide Charter School Board for the purposes set forth in Section
 2 of this act. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon
 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

6 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-104, is 7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 3-104. A. The supervision of the public school system 9 of Oklahoma shall be vested in the State Board of Education and, 10 subject to limitations otherwise provided by law, the State Board of 11 Education shall:

Adopt policies and make rules for the operation of the
 public school system of the state;

14 2. Appoint, prescribe the duties, and fix the compensation of a 15 secretary, an attorney, and all other personnel necessary for the 16 proper performance of the functions of the State Board of Education. 17 The secretary shall not be a member of the Board;

Submit to the Governor a departmental budget based upon
 major functions of the Department as prepared by the State
 Superintendent of Public Instruction and supported by detailed data
 on needs and proposed operations as partially determined by the
 budgetary needs of local school districts filed with the State Board
 of Education for the ensuing fiscal year. Appropriations therefor

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1 shall be made in lump-sum form for each major item in the budget as
2 follows:

3	a.	State Aid to schools,
4	b.	the supervision of all other functions of general and
5		special education including general control, free
6		textbooks, school lunch, Indian education, and all
7		other functions of the Board and an amount sufficient
8		to adequately staff and administer these services, and
9	с.	the Board shall determine the details by which the
10		budget and the appropriations are administered.
11		Annually, the Board shall make preparations to
12		consolidate all of the functions of the Department in
13		such a way that the budget can be based on two items,
14		administration and aid to schools. A maximum amount
15		for administration shall be designated as a part of
16		the total appropriation;
17	4. On th	e first day of December preceding each regular session
18	of the Legisl	ature, prepare and deliver to the Governor and the
19	Legislature a	report for the year ending June 30 immediately
20	preceding the	regular session of the Legislature. The report shall
21	contain:	
22	a.	detailed statistics and other information concerning
23		enrollment, attendance, expenditures including State

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Aid, and other pertinent data for all public schools
 in this state,

- b. reports from each and every division within the State
  Department of Education as submitted by the State
  Superintendent of Public Instruction and any other
  division, department, institution, or other agency
  under the supervision of the Board,
- 8 c. recommendations for the improvement of the public
  9 school system of the state,
- 10d.a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the11State Board of Education for the past year, and12e.a statement of plans and recommendations for the13management and improvement of public schools and such14other information relating to the educational15interests of the state as may be deemed necessary and
- 16 desirable;

17 5. Provide for the formulation and adoption of curricula,
18 courses of study, and other instructional aids necessary for the
19 adequate instruction of pupils in the public schools;

6. Have authority in matters pertaining to the licensure and certification of persons for instructional, supervisory, and administrative positions and services in the public schools of the state subject to the provisions of Section 6-184 of this title, and shall formulate rules governing the issuance and revocation of

1 certificates for superintendents of schools, principals,

supervisors, librarians, clerical employees, school nurses, school bus drivers, visiting teachers, classroom teachers, and for other personnel performing instructional, administrative, and supervisory services, but not including members of boards of education and other employees who do not work directly with pupils, and may charge and collect reasonable fees for the issuance of such certificates:

the State Department of Education shall not issue a 8 a. 9 certificate to and shall revoke the certificate of any person who has been convicted, whether upon a verdict 10 or plea of guilty or upon a plea of nolo contendere, 11 12 or received a suspended sentence or any probationary term for a crime or an attempt to commit a crime 13 provided for in Section 843.5 of Title 21 of the 14 Oklahoma Statutes if the offense involved sexual abuse 15 or sexual exploitation as those terms are defined in 16 Section 1-1-105 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, 17 Section 741, 843.1, if the offense included sexual 18 abuse or sexual exploitation, 865 et seq., 885, 888, 19 891, 1021, 1021.2, 1021.3, 1040.13a, 1087, 1088, 20 1111.1, 1114 or 1123 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma 21 Statutes or who enters this state and who has been 22 convicted, received a suspended sentence, or received 23 a deferred judgment for a crime or attempted crime 24

which, if committed or attempted in this state, would be a crime or an attempt to commit a crime provided for in any of said the laws,

b. all funds collected by the State Department of 4 Education for the issuance of certificates to 5 instructional, supervisory, and administrative 6 personnel in the public schools of the state shall be 7 deposited in the "Teachers' Certificate Fund" in the 8 9 State Treasury and may be expended by the State Board of Education to finance the activities of the State 10 Department of Education necessary to administer the 11 12 program, for consultative services, publication costs, actual and necessary travel expenses as provided in 13 the State Travel Reimbursement Act incurred by persons 14 performing research work, and other expenses found 15 necessary by the State Board of Education for the 16 improvement of the preparation and certification of 17 teachers in Oklahoma. Provided, any unobligated 18 balance in the Teachers' Certificate Fund in excess of 19 Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) on June 30 of any 20 fiscal year shall be transferred to the General 21 Revenue Fund of the State of Oklahoma this state. 22 Until July 1, 1997, the State Board of Education shall 23 have authority for approval of teacher education 24

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programs. The State Board of Education shall also have authority for the administration of teacher residency and professional development, subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act; 7. Promulgate rules governing the classification, inspection, supervision, and accrediting of all public nursery, kindergarten, elementary and secondary schools, and on-site educational services provided by public school districts or state-accredited private schools in partial hospitalization programs, day treatment programs, and day hospital programs as defined in this act for persons between the ages of three (3) and twenty-one (21) years of age in the state. However, no school shall be denied accreditation solely on the basis of average daily attendance.

Any school district which maintains an elementary school and 14 faces the necessity of relocating its school facilities because of 15 construction of a lake, either by state or federal authority, which 16 17 will inundate the school facilities, shall be entitled to receive probationary accreditation from the State Board of Education for a 18 period of five (5) years after the effective date of this act June 19 12, 1975, and any school district, otherwise qualified, shall be 20 entitled to receive probationary accreditation from the State Board 21 of Education for a period of two (2) consecutive years to attain the 22 minimum average daily attendance. The Head Start and public 23 nurseries or kindergartens operated from Community Action Program 24

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1 funds shall not be subjected to the accrediting rules of the State Board of Education. Neither will the State Board of Education make 2 rules affecting the operation of the public nurseries and 3 kindergartens operated from federal funds secured through Community 4 5 Action Programs even though they may be operating in the public schools of the state. However, any of the Head Start or public 6 nurseries or kindergartens operated under federal regulations may 7 make application for accrediting from the State Board of Education 8 9 but will be accredited only if application for the approval of the programs is made. The status of no school district shall be changed 10 which will reduce it to a lower classification until due notice has 11 12 been given to the proper authorities thereof and an opportunity given to correct the conditions which otherwise would be the cause 13 of such reduction. 14

Private and parochial schools may be accredited and classified in like manner as public schools or, if an accrediting association is approved by the State Board of Education, by procedures established by the State Board of Education to accept accreditation by such accrediting association, if application is made to the State Board of Education for such accrediting;

8. Be the legal agent of the State of Oklahoma this state to accept, in its discretion, the provisions of any Act of Congress appropriating or apportioning funds which are now, or may hereafter be, provided for use in connection with any phase of the system of

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public education in Oklahoma. It shall prescribe such rules as it finds necessary to provide for the proper distribution of such funds in accordance with the state and federal laws;

9. Be and is specifically hereby designated as the agency of
this state to cooperate and deal with any officer, board, or
authority of the United States Government under any law of the
United States which may require or recommend cooperation with any
state board having charge of the administration of public schools
unless otherwise provided by law;

Be and is hereby designated as the "State Educational 10 10. Agency" referred to in Public Law 396 of the 79th Congress of the 11 12 United States, which law states that <del>said</del> the act may be cited as the "National School Lunch Act", and said the State Board of 13 Education is hereby authorized and directed to accept the terms and 14 provisions of said the act and to enter into such agreements, not in 15 conflict with the Constitution of Oklahoma or the Constitution and 16 Statutes of the United States, as may be necessary or appropriate to 17 secure for the State of Oklahoma this state the benefits of the 18 school lunch program established and referred to in said the act; 19 Have authority to secure and administer the benefits of the 20 11.

National School Lunch Act, Public Law 396 of the 79th Congress of the United States, in the State of Oklahoma this state and is hereby authorized to employ or appoint and fix the compensation of such additional officers or employees and to incur such expenses as may

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be necessary for the accomplishment of the above purpose, administer the distribution of any state funds appropriated by the Legislature required as federal matching to reimburse on children's meals;

Accept and provide for the administration of any land,
money, buildings, gifts, donation, or other things of value which
may be offered or bequeathed to the schools under the supervision or
control of said the Board;

Have authority to require persons having administrative 8 13. 9 control of all school districts in Oklahoma to make such regular and 10 special reports regarding the activities of the schools in said the districts as the Board may deem needful for the proper exercise of 11 its duties and functions. Such authority shall include the right of 12 the State Board of Education to withhold all state funds under its 13 control, to withhold official recognition, including accrediting, 14 until such required reports have been filed and accepted in the 15 office of said the Board and to revoke the certificates of persons 16 failing or refusing to make such reports; 17

Have general supervision of the school lunch program. 18 14. The State Board of Education may sponsor workshops for personnel and 19 participants in the school lunch program and may develop, print, and 20 distribute free of charge or sell any materials, books, and 21 bulletins to be used in such the school lunch programs. There is 22 hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Board, 23 to be designated the School Lunch Workshop Revolving Fund. 24 The fund

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1 shall consist of all fees derived from or on behalf of any participant in any such workshop sponsored by the State Board of 2 Education, or from the sale of any materials, books, and bulletins, 3 and such funds shall be disbursed for expenses of such workshops and 4 5 for developing, printing, and distributing of such the materials, books, and bulletins relating to the school lunch program. The fund 6 shall be administered in accordance with Section 155 of Title 62 of 7 the Oklahoma Statutes; 8

9 15. Prescribe all forms for school district and county officers 10 to report to the State Board of Education where required. The State 11 Board of Education shall also prescribe a list of appropriation 12 accounts by which the funds of school districts shall be budgeted, 13 accounted for, and expended; and it shall be the duty of the State 14 Auditor and Inspector in prescribing all budgeting, accounting, and 15 reporting forms for school funds to conform to such lists;

16 16. Provide for the establishment of a uniform system of pupil 17 and personnel accounting, records, and reports;

18 17. Have authority to provide for the health and safety of 19 school children and school personnel while under the jurisdiction of 20 school authorities;

21 18. Provide for the supervision of the transportation of 22 pupils;

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19. Have authority, upon request of the local school board, to
 act in behalf of the public schools of the state in the purchase of
 transportation equipment;

4 20. Have authority and is hereby required to perform all duties
5 necessary to the administration of the public school system in
6 Oklahoma as specified in the Oklahoma School Code; and, in addition
7 thereto, those duties not specifically mentioned herein if not
8 delegated by law to any other agency or official;

9 21. Administer the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund established by Section 32 of Article X of the 10 11 Oklahoma Constitution. Any monies as may be appropriated or 12 designated by the Legislature, other than ad valorem taxes, any 13 other funds identified by the State Department of Education, which may include, but not be limited to, grants-in-aid from the federal 14 government for building purposes, the proceeds of all property that 15 shall fall to the state by escheat, penalties for unlawful holding 16 of real estate by corporations, and capital gains on assets of the 17 permanent school funds, shall be deposited in the State Public 18 Common School Building Equalization Fund. The fund shall be used to 19 aid school districts and charter schools in acquiring buildings, 20 subject to the limitations fixed by Section 32 of Article X of the 21 Oklahoma Constitution. It is hereby declared that the term 22 "acquiring buildings" as used in Section 32 of Article X of the 23 Oklahoma Constitution shall mean acquiring or improving school 24

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sites, constructing, repairing, remodeling, or equipping buildings, 1 or acquiring school furniture, fixtures, or equipment. It is hereby 2 declared that the term "school districts" as used in Section 32 of 3 Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution shall mean school districts 4 5 and eligible charter schools as defined in subsection B of this The State Board of Education shall disburse redbud school 6 section. grants annually from the State Public Common School Building 7 Equalization Fund to public schools and eligible charter schools 8 9 pursuant to subsection B of this section. The Board shall promulgate rules for the implementation of disbursing redbud school 10 grants pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education shall 11 prescribe rules for making grants of aid from, and for otherwise 12 13 administering, the fund pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, and may employ and fix the duties and compensation of 14 technicians, aides, clerks, stenographers, attorneys, and other 15 personnel deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this 16 17 paragraph. The cost of administering the fund shall be paid from monies appropriated to the State Board of Education for the 18 operation of the State Department of Education. From monies 19 apportioned to the fund, the State Department of Education may 20 reserve not more than one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) for 21 purposes of administering the fund; 22

23 22. Recognize that the Director of the Oklahoma Department of24 Corrections shall be the administrative authority for the schools

which are maintained in the state reformatories and shall appoint the principals and teachers in such schools. Provided, that rules of the State Board of Education for the classification, inspection, and accreditation of public schools shall be applicable to such schools; and such schools shall comply with standards set by the State Board of Education; and

Have authority to administer a revolving fund which is 7 23. hereby created in the State Treasury, to be designated the 8 9 Statistical Services Revolving Fund. The fund shall consist of all monies received from the various school districts of the state, the 10 United States Government, and other sources for the purpose of 11 12 furnishing or financing statistical services and for any other 13 purpose as designated by the Legislature. The State Board of Education is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with school 14 districts, municipalities, the United States Government, 15 foundations, and other agencies or individuals for services, 16 programs, or research projects. The Statistical Services Revolving 17 Fund shall be administered in accordance with Section 155 of Title 18 62 of the Oklahoma Statutes. 19

B. 1. The redbud school grants shall be determined by theState Department of Education as follows:

a. divide the county four-mill levy revenue by four to
determine the nonchargeable county four-mill revenue
for each school district,

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1 b. determine the amount of new revenue generated by the five-mill building fund levy as authorized by Section 2 10 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution for each 3 school district as reported in the Oklahoma Cost 4 5 Accounting System for the preceding fiscal year, add the amounts calculated in subparagraphs a and b of 6 с. this paragraph to determine the nonchargeable millage 7 for each school district, 8

9 d. add the nonchargeable millage in each district statewide as calculated in subparagraph c of this 10 paragraph and divide the total by the average daily 11 12 membership in public schools statewide based on the 13 preceding school year's average daily membership, according to the provisions of Section 18-107 of this 14 title. This amount is the statewide nonchargeable 15 millage per student, known as the baseline local 16 funding per student, 17

e. all eligible charter schools shall be included in
these calculations as unique school districts,
separate from the school district that may sponsor the
eligible charter school, and the total number of
districts shall be used to determine the statewide
average baseline local funding per student,

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1 f. for each school district or eligible charter school which is below the baseline local funding per student, 2 the Department shall subtract the baseline local 3 funding per student from the average nonchargeable 4 5 millage per student of the school district or eligible charter school to determine the nonchargeable millage 6 per student shortfall for each district, and 7 the nonchargeable millage per student shortfall for a 8 g. 9 school district or eligible charter school shall be multiplied by the average daily membership of the 10 preceding school year of the eligible school district 11 12 or eligible charter school. This amount shall be the redbud school grant amount for the school district or 13 eligible charter school. 14

2. For fiscal year 2022, monies for the redbud school grants 15 shall be expended from the funds apportioned pursuant to Section 2 16 17 Section 426 of this act Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes. For fiscal year 2023 and each subsequent fiscal year, monies for the 18 redbud school grants shall be appropriated pursuant to Section 2 19 Section 426 of this act Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, not to 20 exceed three-fourths (3/4) of the tax collected in the preceding 21 fiscal year pursuant to Section 426 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma 22 Statutes as determined by the Oklahoma Tax Commission. For fiscal 23 year 2023 and each subsequent fiscal year, if such appropriated 24

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funds are insufficient to fund the redbud school grants, then an additional apportionment of funds shall be made from sales tax collections as provided by subsection D of Section 3 Section 1353 of this act Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. If both funds are insufficient, the Department shall promulgate rules to permit a decrease to the baseline local funding per student to the highest amount allowed with the funding available.

3. As used in this section, "eligible charter school" shall 8 9 mean a charter school which is sponsored pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Charter School Schools Act. Provided, however, 10 "eligible charter school" shall not include a statewide virtual 11 12 charter school sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School 13 Board Statewide Charter School Board but shall only include those which provide in-person or blended instruction, as provided by 14 Section 1-111 of this title, to not less than two-thirds (2/3) of 15 students as the primary means of instructional service delivery. 16

The Department shall develop a program to acknowledge the
 redbud school grant recipients and shall include elected members of
 the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Oklahoma State Senate who
 represent the school districts and eligible charter schools.

5. The Department shall create a dedicated page on its website listing annual redbud school grant recipients, amount awarded to each recipient, and other pertinent information about the Redbud School Funding Act.

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6. The Department shall provide the Chair of the House
 Appropriations and Budget Committee and the Chair of the Senate
 Appropriations Committee no later than February 1 of each year with
 an estimate of the upcoming year's redbud school grant allocation as
 prescribed by this section.

6 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-132, is 7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 3-132. A. The Oklahoma Charter Schools Act shall apply 9 only to charter schools formed and operated under the provisions of 10 the act. Charter schools shall be sponsored only as follows:

11 1. By any school district located in the State of Oklahoma this 12 <u>state</u>, provided such charter school shall only be located within the 13 geographical boundaries of the sponsoring district and subject to 14 the restrictions of Section 3-145.6 of this title;

By a technology center school district if the charter school
 is located in a school district served by the technology center
 school district in which all or part of the school district is
 located in a county having more than five hundred thousand (500,000)
 population according to the latest Federal Decennial Census;

3. By a technology center school district if the charter school
is located in a school district served by the technology center
school district and the school district has a school site that has
been identified as in need of improvement by the State Board of

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## Education pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2 1965, as amended or reauthorized;

4. By an accredited comprehensive or regional institution that
is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or a
community college if the charter school is located in a school
district in which all or part of the school district is located in a
county having more than five hundred thousand (500,000) population
according to the latest Federal Decennial Census;

9 5. 3. By a comprehensive or regional institution that is a 10 member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education if the charter school is located in a school district that has a school 11 12 site that has been identified as in need of improvement by the State Board of Education pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary 13 Education Act of 1965, as amended or reauthorized. In addition, the 14 institution shall have a teacher education program accredited by the 15 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation Commission for 16 Educational Quality and Accountability and have a branch campus or 17

18 constituent agency physically located within the school district in 19 which the charter school is located in the State of Oklahoma;

6. <u>4.</u> By a federally recognized Indian tribe, operating a high
school under the authority of the Bureau of Indian Affairs as of
November 1, 2010, if the charter school is for the purpose of
demonstrating native language immersion instruction, and is located
within its former reservation or treaty area boundaries. For

purposes of this paragraph, native language immersion instruction shall require that educational instruction and other activities conducted at the school site are primarily conducted in the native language;

5 7. By 5. Until June 30, 2023, the State Board of Education and beginning July 1, 2023, the Statewide Charter School Board when the 6 applicant of the charter school is the Office of Juvenile Affairs or 7 the applicant has a contract with the Office of Juvenile Affairs to 8 9 provide a fixed rate level E, D, or D+ group home service and the charter school is for the purpose of providing education services to 10 youth in the custody or supervision of the state. Not more than two 11 charter schools shall be sponsored by the Board as provided for in 12 this paragraph during the period of time beginning July 1, 2010, 13 through July 1, 2016; 14

By a federally recognized Indian tribe only when the charter school is located within the former reservation or treaty area boundaries of the tribe on property held in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe; or

9. By the State Board of Education when the applicant has first been denied a charter by the local school district in which it seeks to operate. In counties with fewer than five hundred thousand (500,000) population, according to the latest Federal Decennial Census, the State Board of Education shall not sponsor more than

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1 five charter schools per year each year for the first five (5) years after the effective date of this act, with not more than one charter 2 school sponsored in a single school district per year. In order to 3 authorize a charter school under this section, the State Board of 4 5 Education shall find evidence of all of the following: a. a thorough and high-quality charter school application 6 from the applicant based on the authorizing standards 7 in subsection B of Section 3-134 of this title, 8 9 b. a clear demonstration of community support for the charter school, and 10 the grounds and basis of objection by the school 11 <del>C.</del> district for denying the operation of the charter are 12 not supported by the greater weight of evidence and 13 the strength of the application 7. Beginning July 1, 14 2023, by the Statewide Charter School Board. 15 An eligible non-school-district sponsor shall give priority 16 В. to opening charter schools that serve at-risk student populations or 17 students from low-performing traditional public schools. 18 C. An eligible non-school-district sponsor shall give priority 19 to applicants that have demonstrated a record of operating at least 20

organizational viability and serves student populations similar to those the proposed charter school seeks to serve. In assessing the potential for quality replication of a charter school, a sponsor

one school or similar program that demonstrates academic success and

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1 shall consider the following factors before approving a new site or 2 school:

3 1. Evidence of a strong and reliable record of academic success
4 based primarily on student performance data, as well as other viable
5 indicators, including financial and operational success;

2. A sound, detailed, and well-supported growth plan;

3. Evidence of the ability to transfer successful practices to
a potentially different context that includes reproducing critical
cultural, organizational, and instructional characteristics;

10 4. Any management organization involved in a potential 11 replication is fully vetted, and the academic, financial, and 12 operational records of the schools it operates are found to be 13 satisfactory;

5. Evidence the program seeking to be replicated has the capacity to do so successfully without diminishing or putting at risk its current operations; and

17 6. A financial structure that ensures that funds attributable
18 to each charter school within a network and required by law to be
19 utilized by a school remain with and are used to benefit that
20 school.

D. For purposes of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, "charter school" means a public school established by contract with a board of education of a school district, an area vocational-technical school district, a higher education institution, a federally

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1	recognized Indian tribe, or the State Board of Education pursuant to
2	the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act to provide learning that will
3	improve student achievement and as defined in the Elementary and
4	Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. 8065.
5	E. 1. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act,
6	"conversion school" means a school created by converting all or any
7	part of a traditional public school in order to access any or all
8	flexibilities afforded to a charter school.
9	2. Prior to the board of education of a school district
10	converting all or any part of a traditional public school to a
11	conversion school, the board shall prepare a conversion plan. The
12	conversion plan shall include documentation that demonstrates and
13	complies with paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17,
14	19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 34 and 35 of subsection B of Section 3-134
15	of this title. The conversion plan and all documents shall be in
16	writing and shall be available to the public pursuant to the
17	requirements of the Oklahoma Open Records Act. All votes by the
18	board of education of a school district to approve a conversion plan
19	shall be held in an open public session. If the board of education
20	of a school district votes to approve a conversion plan, the board
21	shall notify the State Board of Education within sixty (60) days
22	after the vote. The notification shall include a copy of the
23	minutes for the board meeting at which the conversion plan was
24	approved.

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1	3. A conversion school shall comply with all the same
2	accountability measures as are required of a charter school as
3	defined in subsection D of this section. The provisions of Sections
4	3-140 and 3-142 of this title shall not apply to a conversion
5	school. Conversion schools shall comply with the same laws and
6	State Board of Education rules relating to student enrollment which
7	apply to traditional public schools. Conversion schools shall be
8	funded by the board of education of the school district as a school
9	site within the school district and funding shall not be affected by
10	the conversion of the school.
11	4. The board of education of a school district may vote to
12	revert a conversion school back to a traditional public school at
13	any time; provided, the change shall only occur during a break
14	between school years.
15	5. Unless otherwise provided for in this subsection, a
16	conversion school shall retain the characteristics of a traditional
17	public school.
18	F. A charter school may consist of a new school site, new
19	school sites or all or any portion of an existing school site. An
20	entire school district may not become a charter school site.
21	SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-134, is
22	amended to read as follows:
23	Section 3-134. A. For written applications filed after January
24	1, 2008 July 1, 2023, prior to submission of the application to a

proposed sponsor seeking to establish a charter school or to the 1 2 Statewide Charter School Board to establish a virtual charter school, the applicant shall be required to complete training which 3 shall not exceed ten (10) hours provided by the State Department of 4 5 Education Statewide Charter School Board on the process and requirements for establishing a charter school or virtual charter 6 The sponsor of a charter school that enters into a new or 7 school. renewed sponsorship contract on or after July 1, 2023, shall be 8 9 required to complete training provided by the Statewide Charter School Board on the oversight duties of the sponsor. The Department 10 Board shall develop and implement the training by January 1, 2008 11 12 July 1, 2023. The Department Board may provide the training in any 13 format and manner that the Department it determines to be efficient and effective including  $\tau$  but not limited to  $\tau$  web-based training. 14 B. Except as otherwise provided for in Section 3-137 of this 15 title, an applicant seeking to establish a virtual charter school 16 17 shall submit a written application to the Statewide Charter School Board, and an applicant seeking to establish a charter school shall 18 submit a written application to the proposed sponsor as prescribed 19 in subsection E of this section. The application shall include: 20 1. A mission statement for the charter school or virtual 21 charter school; 22 23 24

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2. A description including, but not limited to, background
 information of the organizational structure and the governing body
 of the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u>;

A financial plan for the first five (5) years of operation
of the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> and a description of
the treasurer or other officers or persons who shall have primary
responsibility for the finances of the charter school <u>or virtual</u>
<u>charter school</u>. Such person shall have demonstrated experience in
school finance or the equivalent thereof;

4. A description of the hiring policy of the charter school <u>or</u>
 virtual charter school;

12 5. The name of the applicant or applicants and requested 13 sponsor;

14 6. A description of the facility and location of the charter15 school;

16 7. A description of the grades being served;

17 8. An outline of criteria designed to measure the effectiveness18 of the charter school or virtual charter school;

9. A demonstration of support for the charter school from
 residents of the school district <u>in which the charter school is to</u>
 <u>be located</u> which may include but is not limited to a survey of the
 school district residents or a petition signed by residents of the
 school district;

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1 10. Documentation that the applicants completed charter school
 2 training as set forth in subsection A of this section;

3 11. A description of the minimum and maximum enrollment planned4 per year for each term of the charter contract;

5 12. The proposed calendar for the charter school <u>or virtual</u>
6 charter school and sample daily schedule;

7 13. Unless otherwise authorized by law or regulation, a
8 description of the academic program aligned with state standards;

9 14. A description of the instructional design of the charter
10 school, <u>or virtual charter school</u> including the type of learning
11 environment, class size and structure, curriculum overview, and
12 teaching methods;

13 15. The plan for using internal and external assessments to 14 measure and report student progress on the performance framework 15 developed by the applicant in accordance with subsection C of 16 Section 3-135 Section 3-136 of this title;

17 16. The plans for identifying and successfully serving students 18 with disabilities, students who are English language learners, and 19 students who are academically behind;

20 17. A description of cocurricular or extracurricular programs 21 and how they will be funded and delivered;

22 18. Plans and time lines for student recruitment and 23 enrollment<sub>7</sub> including lottery procedures;

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19. The student discipline policies for the charter school, or
 <u>virtual charter school</u> including those for special education
 students;

20. An organizational chart that clearly presents the
organizational structure of the charter school, <u>or virtual charter</u>
<u>school</u> including lines of authority and reporting between the
governing board, staff, any related bodies such as advisory bodies
or parent and teacher councils, and any external organizations that
will play a role in managing the school;

10 21. A clear description of the roles and responsibilities for 11 the governing board, the leadership and management team for the 12 charter school, or virtual charter school and any other entities 13 shown in the organizational chart;

14 22. The leadership and teacher employment policies for the 15 charter school or virtual charter school;

16 23. Proposed governing bylaws;

17 24. Explanations of any partnerships or contractual
18 partnerships central to the operations or mission of the charter
19 school or virtual charter school;

20 25. The plans for providing transportation, food service, and
21 all other significant operational or ancillary services;

22 26. Opportunities and expectations for parental involvement;
23 27. A detailed school start-up plan that identifies tasks, time
24 lines, and responsible individuals;

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1 28. A description of the financial plan and policies for the charter school  $\overline{\tau}$  or virtual charter school including financial 2 controls and audit requirements; 3 29. A description of the insurance coverage the charter school 4 5 or virtual charter school will obtain; Start-up and five-year budgets with clearly stated 6 30. assumptions; 7 Start-up and first-year cash-flow projections with clearly 8 31. 9 stated assumptions; Evidence of anticipated fundraising contributions, if 10 32. claimed in the application; 11 A sound facilities  $plan_{\tau}$  including backup or contingency 12 33. plans if appropriate; 13 A requirement that the charter school or virtual charter 34. 14 school governing board meet at a minimum quarterly in the state and 15 that for those charter schools outside of counties with a population 16 of five hundred thousand (500,000) or more, that a majority of 17 members are residents within the geographic boundary of the 18 sponsoring entity charter school; and 19 A requirement that the charter school follow the 20 35. requirements of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and Oklahoma Open 21 Records Act. 22 C. A board of education of a public school district, public 23 body, public or private college or university, private person, or 24

1 private organization may contract with a sponsor to establish a charter school. A private school shall not be eligible to contract 2 for a charter school or virtual charter school under the provisions 3 of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act. 4

5 D. The sponsor of a charter school is the board of education of a school district, the board of education of a technology center 6 school district, a higher education institution, the State Board of 7 Education, or a federally recognized Indian tribe which meets the 8 9 criteria established in Section 3-132 of this title, or beginning July 1, 2023, the Statewide Charter School Board. Any board of 10 education of a school district in the state may sponsor one or more 11 charter schools. The physical location of a charter school 12 sponsored by a board of education of a school district or a 13 technology center school district shall be within the boundaries of 14 the sponsoring school district. The physical location of a charter 15 school sponsored by the State Board of Education Statewide Charter 16 17 School Board when the applicant of the charter school is the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall be where an Office of Juvenile Affairs 18 facility for youth is located. The physical location of a charter 19 school otherwise sponsored by the State Board of Education pursuant 20 to paragraph 8 of subsection A of Section 3-132 of this title shall 21 be in the school district in which the application originated. 22 E. An applicant for a charter school may submit an application 23 to a proposed sponsor which shall either accept or reject

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sponsorship of the charter school within ninety (90) days of receipt 1 of the application. If the proposed sponsor rejects the 2 application, it shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons 3 for the rejection. The applicant may submit a revised application 4 5 for reconsideration to the proposed sponsor within thirty (30) days after receiving notification of the rejection. The proposed sponsor 6 shall accept or reject the revised application within thirty (30) 7 days of its receipt. Should the sponsor reject the application on 8 9 reconsideration, the applicant may appeal the decision to the State 10 Board of Education with the revised application for review pursuant to paragraph 8 of subsection A of Section 3-132 of this title. The 11 12 State Board of Education shall hear the appeal no later than sixty (60) days from the date received by the Board. 13

F. A board of education of a school district, board of education of a technology center school district, <u>a</u> higher education institution, or <u>a</u> federally recognized Indian tribe sponsor of <u>a</u> charter school shall notify the State Board of Education <u>and the</u> Statewide Charter School Board when it accepts sponsorship of a charter school. The notification shall include a copy of the charter of the charter school.

G. Applicants for charter schools proposed to be sponsored by an entity other than a school district pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 3-132 of this title may, upon rejection of the revised application, proceed to binding arbitration under the

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commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association with costs of the arbitration to be borne by the proposed sponsor. Applicants for charter schools proposed to be sponsored by school districts pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 3-132 of this title may not proceed to binding arbitration but may be sponsored by the State Board of Education as provided in paragraph 8 of subsection A of Section 3-132 of this title.

H. If a board of education of a technology center school 8 9 district school district, a higher education institution, the State Board of Education, or a federally recognized Indian tribe accepts 10 sponsorship of a charter school, the administrative, fiscal, and 11 12 oversight responsibilities of the technology center school district, 13 the school district, higher education institution, or the federally recognized Indian tribe shall be listed in the contract. No 14 administrative, fiscal, or oversight responsibilities of a charter 15 school shall be delegated to a school district unless the local 16 17 school district agrees to enter into a contract to assume the responsibilities. 18

19 I. H. A sponsor of a public charter school shall have the 20 following powers and duties <u>over charter schools it sponsors</u>, and 21 <u>the Statewide Charter School Board shall have the following powers</u> 22 <u>and duties over the charter schools and statewide virtual charter</u> 23 <u>schools it sponsors</u>:

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1 1. Provide oversight of the operations of charter schools in the state through annual performance reviews of charter schools and 2 reauthorization of charter schools for which it is a sponsor; 3 2. Solicit and evaluate charter applications; 4 5 3. Approve quality charter applications that meet identified educational needs and promote a diversity of educational choices; 6 4. Decline to approve weak or inadequate charter applications; 7 Negotiate and execute sound charter contracts with each 8 5. 9 approved public charter school or virtual charter school; 10 6. Approve or deny proposed contracts between the governing board of a charter school or virtual charter school and an 11 12 educational management organization, as defined by Section 5-200 of this title; 13 7. Monitor, in accordance with charter contract terms, the 14 performance and legal compliance of charter schools and virtual 15 charter schools; and 16 7. 8. Determine whether each charter contract merits renewal, 17 nonrenewal, or revocation. 18 Sponsors shall establish a procedure for accepting, 19 J. approving, and disapproving charter school applications in 20 accordance with subsection E of this section. The Statewide Charter 21 School Board shall post its application, application process, and 22 application time frames on the Board's website. 23 24

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1 K. Sponsors including the Statewide Charter School Board, shall be required to develop and maintain chartering policies and 2 practices consistent with recognized principles and standards for 3 quality charter authorizing as established by the State Department 4 5 of Education in all major areas of authorizing responsibility  $\tau$ including organizational capacity and infrastructure, soliciting and 6 evaluating charter school and virtual charter school applications, 7 performance contracting, ongoing charter school and virtual charter 8 9 school oversight and evaluation, and charter contract renewal decision-making. 10

L. Sponsors acting in their official capacity shall be immune from civil and criminal liability with respect to all activities related to a charter school with which they contract.

14SECTION 7.AMENDATORY70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-136, is15amended to read as follows:

Section 3-136. A. A <u>Beginning July 1, 2023, a written contract</u> <u>entered into between the Statewide Charter School Board and the</u> <u>governing body of a charter school or statewide virtual charter</u> <u>school or a written contract entered into between a sponsor and the</u> <u>governing body of a charter school</u> shall <u>adopt a charter which will</u> ensure compliance with the following:

A Except as provided for in the Oklahoma Charter Schools
 Act, a charter school and virtual charter school shall be exempt
 from all statutes and rules relating to schools, boards of

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1 education, and school districts; provided, however, a charter school or virtual charter school shall comply with all federal regulations 2 and state and local rules and statutes relating to health, safety, 3 civil rights, and insurance. By January 1, 2000, the State 4 5 Department of Education shall prepare a list of relevant rules and statutes which a charter school and virtual charter school must 6 comply with as required by this paragraph and shall annually provide 7 an update to the list; 8

9 2. A charter school <u>and virtual charter school</u> shall be
10 nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment
11 practices, and all other operations. A sponsor <u>including the</u>
12 <u>Statewide Charter School Board</u>, may not authorize a charter school,
13 <u>virtual charter school</u>, or program that is affiliated with a
14 nonpublic sectarian school or religious institution;

3. The charter contract shall provide a description of the 15 educational program to be offered. A charter school or virtual 16 charter school may provide a comprehensive program of instruction 17 for a prekindergarten program, a kindergarten program, or any grade 18 between grades one and twelve. Instruction may be provided to all 19 persons between the ages of four (4) and twenty-one (21) years. A 20 charter school or virtual charter school may offer a curriculum 21 which emphasizes a specific learning philosophy or style or certain 22 subject areas such as mathematics, science, fine arts, performance 23 arts, or foreign language. The charter of a charter school or 24

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virtual charter school which offers grades nine through twelve shall 1 2 specifically address whether the charter school or virtual charter school will comply with the graduation requirements established in 3 Section 11-103.6 of this title. No charter school or virtual 4 5 charter school shall be chartered for the purpose of offering a curriculum for deaf or blind students that is the same or similar to 6 the curriculum being provided by or for educating deaf or blind 7 students that are being served by the Oklahoma School for the Blind 8 9 or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf;

4. A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall participate
in the testing as required by the Oklahoma School Testing Program
Act and the reporting of test results as is required of a school
district. A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall also
provide any necessary data to the Office of Accountability <u>within</u>
the State Department of Education;

16 5. Except as provided for in the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act 17 and its charter, a charter school shall be exempt from all statutes 18 and rules relating to schools, boards of education, and school 19 districts;

6. A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u>, to the extent
possible, shall be subject to the same reporting requirements,
financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as a
school district. The State Department of Education or State Auditor
and Inspector may conduct financial, program, or compliance audits.

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1 A charter school or virtual charter school shall use the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System to report financial transactions to the 2 sponsoring school district State Department of Education; 3 7. 6. A charter school or virtual charter school shall comply 4 5 with all federal and state laws relating to the education of children with disabilities in the same manner as a school district; 6 8. 7. A charter school or virtual charter school shall provide 7 for a governing body for the school which shall be responsible for 8 9 the policies and operational decisions of the charter school or 10 virtual charter school. A majority of the charter school or virtual charter school governing body members shall be residents of this 11 state and shall meet no less than quarterly in a public meeting 12 within the boundaries of the school district in which the charter 13 school is located or within this state if the governing body 14 oversees multiple charter schools in this state or oversees a 15 virtual charter school. The governing body of a charter school or 16 17 virtual charter school shall be subject to the same conflict of interest requirements as a member of a school district board of 18 education including but not limited to Sections 5-113 and 5-124 of 19 this title. Members appointed to the governing body of a charter 20 school or virtual charter school shall be subject to the same 21 instruction and continuing education requirements as a member of a 22 school district board of education and pursuant to Section 5-110 of 23 this title, complete twelve (12) hours of instruction within fifteen 24

1 (15) months of appointment to the governing body, and pursuant to Section 5-110.1 of this title, attend continuing education; 2 9. 8. A charter school or virtual charter school shall not be 3 used as a method of generating revenue for students who are being 4 5 home schooled and are not being educated at an organized charter school site or by a virtual charter school; 6 10. 9. A charter school may or virtual charter school shall be 7 as equally free and open to all students as traditional public 8 9 schools and shall not charge tuition or fees; 11. 10. A charter school or virtual charter school shall 10 provide instruction each year for at least the number of days 11 required in Section 1-109 of this title; 12 12. 11. A charter school or virtual charter school shall comply 13 with the student suspension requirements provided for in Section 24-14 101.3 of this title; 15 13. 12. A charter school or virtual charter school shall be 16 considered a school district for purposes of tort liability under 17 The Governmental Tort Claims Act; 18 14. 13. Employees of a charter school or virtual charter school 19 may participate as members of the Teachers' Retirement System of 20 Oklahoma in accordance with applicable statutes and rules if 21 otherwise allowed pursuant to law; 22 15. 14. A charter school or virtual charter school may 23 participate in all health and related insurance programs available 24

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1 to the employees of the sponsor of the charter school a public 2 school district;

3 <u>16.</u> <u>15.</u> A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall comply 4 with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records 5 Act;

6 17. The governing body of a charter school shall be subject to 7 the same conflict of interest requirements as a member of a local 8 school board; and

9 18. 16. No later than September 1 each year, the governing board of each charter school or virtual charter school formed 10 pursuant to the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act shall prepare a 11 12 statement of actual income and expenditures for the charter school or virtual charter school for the fiscal year that ended on the 13 preceding June 30, in a manner compliant with Section 5-135 of this 14 title. The statement of expenditures shall include functional 15 categories as defined in rules adopted by the State Board of 16 Education to implement the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System pursuant 17 to Section 5-145 of this title. Charter schools and virtual charter 18 schools shall not be permitted to submit estimates of expenditures 19 or prorated amounts to fulfill the requirements of this paragraph; 20 21 and

22 <u>17. A charter school or virtual charter school contract shall</u> 23 <u>include performance provisions based on a performance framework that</u> 24 clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance

1	indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the evaluation of
2	a charter school or virtual charter school by the sponsor including
3	the Statewide Charter School Board. The sponsor shall require a
4	charter school or virtual charter school to submit the data required
5	in this subsection in the identical format that is required by the
6	State Department of Education of all public schools in order to
7	avoid duplicative administrative efforts or allow a charter school
8	or virtual charter school to provide permission to the Department to
9	share all required data with the Board. The performance framework
10	shall include indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum:
11	1. Student academic proficiency;
12	2. Student academic growth;
13	3. Achievement gaps in both proficiency and growth between
14	major student subgroups;
15	4. Student attendance;
16	5. Recurrent enrollment from year to year as determined by the
17	methodology used for public schools in Oklahoma;
18	6. In the case of high schools, graduation rates as determined
19	by the methodology used for public schools in Oklahoma;
20	7. In the case of high schools, postsecondary readiness;
21	8. Financial performance and sustainability; and
22	9. Governing board performance and stewardship including
23	compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the
24	charter contract.

1	B. The charter <u>contract</u> of a charter school <u>or virtual charter</u>
2	school shall include a description of the personnel policies,
3	personnel qualifications, and method of school governance, and the
4	specific role and duties of the sponsor of the charter school. $\underline{A}$
5	charter school or virtual charter school shall not enter into an
6	employment contract with any teacher or other personnel until a
7	contract has been executed with its sponsor. The employment
8	contract shall set forth the personnel policies of the charter
9	school or virtual charter school including, but not limited to,
10	policies related to certification, professional development
11	evaluation, suspension, dismissal and nonreemployment, sick leave,
12	personal business leave, emergency leave, and family and medical
13	leave. The contract shall also specifically set forth the salary,
14	hours, fringe benefits, and work conditions. The contract may
15	provide for employer-employee bargaining, but the charter school or
16	virtual charter school shall not be required to comply with the
17	provisions of Sections 509.1 through 509.10 of this title.
18	Upon contracting with any teacher or other personnel, the
19	governing body of a charter school or virtual charter school shall,
20	in writing, disclose employment rights of the employees in the event
21	the charter school or virtual charter school closes or the charter
22	contract is not renewed.
23	No charter school or virtual charter school may begin serving
24	students without a contract executed in accordance with the

1	provisions of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act and approved in an
2	open meeting of the governing board of the sponsor or the Statewide
3	Charter School Board. The governing board of the sponsor or the
4	Statewide Charter School Board may establish reasonable preopening
5	requirements or conditions to monitor the start-up progress of newly
6	approved charter schools or virtual charter schools and ensure that
7	each brick-and-mortar school is prepared to open smoothly on the
8	date agreed and to ensure that each school meets all building,
9	health, safety, insurance, and other legal requirements for the
10	opening of a school.
11	C. The charter of a charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u>
12	may be amended at the request of the governing body of the charter
13	school or virtual charter school and upon the approval of the
14	sponsor.
15	D. A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> may enter into
16	contracts and sue and be sued.
17	E. The governing body of a charter school <u>or virtual charter</u>
18	school may not levy taxes or issue bonds.
19	F. The charter of a charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u>
20	shall include a provision specifying the method or methods to be
21	employed for disposing of real and personal property acquired by the
22	charter school or virtual charter school upon expiration or
23	termination of the charter or failure of the charter school <u>or</u>
24	virtual charter school to continue operations. Except as otherwise

1 provided, any real or personal property purchased with state or local funds shall be retained by the sponsoring school district 2 sponsor. If a charter school that was previously sponsored by the 3 board of education of a school district continues operation within 4 5 the school district under a new charter sponsored by an entity authorized pursuant to Section 3-132 of this title, the charter 6 school may retain any personal property purchased with state or 7 local funds for use in the operation of the charter school until 8 termination of the new charter or failure of the charter school to 9 10 continue operations.

11 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-137, is 12 amended to read as follows:

Section 3-137. A. An approved A contract for a charter school 13 approved on or after July 1, 2023, shall be effective for five (5) 14 ten (10) years from the first day of operation. A charter contract 15 may be renewed for successive five-year ten-year terms of duration, 16 although the sponsor may vary the term based on the performance, 17 demonstrated capacities, and particular circumstances of each 18 charter school. A sponsor may grant renewal with specific 19 conditions for necessary improvements to a charter school. 20

B. Prior to the beginning of the <u>fourth ninth</u> year of operation of a charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u>, the sponsor shall issue a <del>charter school</del> performance report and charter renewal application guidance to the <u>charter</u> school and <del>the charter school</del>

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1 its governing board or the virtual charter school and its governing 2 The performance report shall summarize the performance board. record to date of the charter school or virtual charter school, 3 based on the data required by the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act and 4 5 the charter contract and taking into consideration the percentage of at-risk students enrolled in the school, and shall provide notice of 6 any weaknesses or concerns perceived by the sponsor concerning the 7 charter school or virtual charter school that may jeopardize its 8 9 position in seeking renewal if not timely rectified. The charter school or virtual charter school shall have forty-five (45) days to 10 respond to the performance report and submit any corrections or 11 12 clarifications for the report.

C. 1. Prior to the beginning of the <u>fifth tenth</u> year of operation, the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> may apply for renewal of the contract with the sponsor <u>including the Statewide</u> <u>Charter School Board</u>. The renewal application guidance shall, at a minimum, provide an opportunity for the charter school <u>or virtual</u> charter school to:

a. present additional evidence, beyond the data contained
 in the performance report, supporting its case for
 charter renewal,

b. describe improvements undertaken or planned for theschool, and

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1 c. detail the plan for the next charter term for the school.

The renewal application guidance shall include or refer 3 2. explicitly to the criteria that will guide the renewal decisions of 4 5 the sponsor, which shall be based on the performance framework set forth in the charter contract and consistent with the Oklahoma 6 Charter Schools Act. 7

The sponsor may deny the request for renewal if it 8 D. 9 determines the charter school or virtual charter school has failed to complete the obligations of the contract or comply with the 10 provisions of the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act. A sponsor shall 11 give written notice of its intent to deny the request for renewal at 12 least eight (8) months prior to expiration of the contract. 13 In making charter renewal decisions, a sponsor shall: 14

1. Ground decisions on evidence of the performance of the 15 charter school or virtual charter school over the term of the 16 17 charter contract in accordance with the performance framework set forth in the charter contract and shall take into consideration the 18 percentage of at-risk students enrolled in the school; 19

2. Grant renewal to charter schools or virtual charter schools 20 that have achieved the standards, targets, and performance 21 expectations as stated in the charter contract and are 22 organizationally and fiscally viable and have been faithful to the 23 terms of the contract and applicable law; 24

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3. Ensure that data used in making renewal decisions are
 available to the school and the public; and

3 4. Provide a public report summarizing the evidence used as the4 basis for each decision.

E. If a sponsor denies a request for renewal, the governing
board of the sponsor may, if requested by the charter school,
proceed to binding arbitration as provided for in subsection G of
Section 3-134 of this title.

9 F. A sponsor may terminate a contract during the term of the contract for failure to meet the requirements for student 10 performance contained in the contract, failure to meet the standards 11 of fiscal management, violations of the law, or other good cause. 12 The sponsor shall give at least ninety (90) days' written notice to 13 the governing board of the charter school or virtual charter school 14 prior to terminating the contract. The governing board may request, 15 in writing, an informal hearing before the sponsor within fourteen 16 (14) days of receiving notice. The sponsor shall conduct an 17 informal hearing before taking action. If a sponsor decides to 18 terminate a contract, the governing board may, if requested by the 19 charter school, proceed to binding arbitration as provided for in 20 subsection C of Section 3-134 of this title. 21

G. F. 1. Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the State
Board of Education shall identify charter schools <u>and virtual</u>
<u>charter schools</u> in the state that are ranked in the bottom five

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1 percent (5%) of all public schools as determined pursuant to Section
2 1210.545 of this title.

2. At the time of its charter renewal, based on an average of the current year and the two (2) prior operating years, a sponsor may close a charter school site <u>or virtual charter school</u> identified as being among the bottom five percent (5%) of public schools in the state. The average of the current year and two (2) prior operating years shall be calculated by using the percentage ranking for each year divided by three, as determined by this subsection.

10 3. If there is a change to the calculation described in Section 11 1210.545 of this title that results in a charter school site <u>or</u> 12 <u>virtual charter school</u> that was not ranked in the bottom five 13 percent (5%) being ranked in the bottom five percent (5%), then the 14 sponsor shall use the higher of the two rankings to calculate the 15 ranking of the charter school site or virtual charter school.

16 4. In the event that a sponsor fails to close a charter school
17 site consistent with this subsection, the sponsor shall appear
18 before the State Board of Education to provide support for its
19 decision. The State Board of Education may, by majority vote,
20 uphold or overturn the decision of the sponsor. If the decision of
21 the sponsor is overturned by the State Board of Education, the Board
22 may implement one of the following actions:

a. transfer the sponsorship of the charter school
 identified in this paragraph to another sponsor,

1	b. order the closure of the charter school identified in
2	this paragraph at the end of the current school year,
3	or
4	c. order the reduction of any administrative fee
5	collected by the sponsor that is applicable to the
6	charter school identified in this paragraph. The
7	reduction shall become effective at the beginning of
8	the month following the month the hearing of the
9	sponsor is held by the State Board of Education.
10	<del>5.</del> A charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> that is closed by
11	the <del>State Board of Education</del> its sponsor pursuant to <del>paragraph 4 of</del>
12	this subsection shall not be granted a <u>subsequent</u> charter <del>by any</del>
13	other sponsor contract.
14	$\frac{6}{5}$ . The requirements of this subsection shall not apply to a
15	charter school or virtual charter school that has been designated by
16	the State Department of Education as implementing an alternative
17	education program throughout the charter school.
18	7. <u>6.</u> In making a <u>charter</u> school site <u>or virtual charter school</u>
19	closure decision, the <del>State Board of Education</del> sponsor shall
20	consider the following:
21	a. enrollment of students with special challenges such as
22	drug or alcohol addiction, prior withdrawal from
23	school, prior incarceration, or other special
24	circumstances,

- b. high mobility of the student population resulting from
   the specific purpose of the charter school <u>or virtual</u>
   <u>charter school</u>,
- annual improvement in the performance of students 4 с. 5 enrolled in the charter school or virtual charter school compared with the performance of students 6 enrolled in the charter school or virtual charter 7 school in the immediately preceding school year, and 8 9 d. whether a majority of students attending the charter school or virtual charter school under consideration 10 for closure would likely revert to attending public 11 12 schools with lower academic achievement, as demonstrated pursuant to Section 1210.545 of this 13 title. 14

8. 7. If the State Board of Education has closed or transferred 15 authorization of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the charter 16 schools chartered by one sponsor are closed pursuant to paragraph 4 17 of this subsection, the authority of the sponsor to authorize new 18 charter schools may be suspended by the Board Statewide Charter 19 School Board until the Board approves the sponsor to authorize new 20 charter schools. A determination under made pursuant to this 21 paragraph to suspend the authority of a sponsor to authorize new 22 charter schools shall identify the deficiencies that, if corrected, 23

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will result in the approval of the sponsor to authorize new charter
 schools.

3 H. <u>G.</u> If a sponsor terminates a contract or the charter school 4 <u>or virtual charter school</u> is closed, the closure shall be conducted 5 in accordance with the following protocol:

1. Within two (2) calendar weeks of a final closure
determination, the sponsor shall meet with the governing board and
leadership of the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> to
establish a transition team composed of school staff, applicant
staff, and others designated by the applicant that will attend to
the closure, including the transfer of students, student records,
and school funds;

The sponsor and transition team shall communicate regularly
 and effectively with families of students enrolled in the charter
 school <u>or virtual charter school</u>, as well as with school staff and
 other stakeholders, to keep them apprised of key information
 regarding the closure of the school and their options and risks;
 The sponsor and transition team shall ensure that current

19 instruction of students enrolled in the charter school <u>or virtual</u> 20 <u>charter school</u> continues per the charter <del>agreement</del> <u>contract</u> for the 21 remainder of the school year;

4. The sponsor and transition team shall ensure that allnecessary and prudent notifications are issued to agencies,

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1 employees, insurers, contractors, creditors, debtors, and management
2 organizations; and

5. The governing board of the charter school <u>or virtual charter</u> 4 <u>school</u> shall continue to meet as necessary to take actions needed to 5 wind down school operations, manage school finances, allocate 6 resources, and facilitate all aspects of closure.

7 I. H. A sponsor including the Statewide Charter School Board,
8 shall develop revocation and nonrenewal processes that are
9 consistent with the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act and that:

Provide the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> with a
 timely notification of the prospect of revocation or nonrenewal and
 of the reasons for possible closure;

Allow the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> a
 reasonable amount of time in which to prepare a response;

3. Provide the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> with an opportunity to submit documents and give testimony in a public hearing challenging the rationale for closure and in support of the continuation of the school at an orderly proceeding held for that purpose and prior to taking any final nonrenewal or revocation decision related to the school;

4. Allow the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> access to
 representation by counsel to call witnesses on its behalf;
 5. Permit the recording of the proceedings; and

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6. After a reasonable period for deliberation, require a final
 determination be made and conveyed in writing to the charter school
 or virtual charter school.

4 J. <u>I.</u> If a sponsor revokes or does not renew a charter
5 <u>contract</u>, the sponsor shall clearly state in a resolution the
6 reasons for the revocation or nonrenewal.

K. 1. Before a sponsor may issue a charter to a charter school 7 governing body that has had its charter terminated or has been 8 9 informed that its charter will not be renewed by the current 10 sponsor, the sponsor shall request to have the proposal reviewed by the State Board of Education at a hearing. The State Board of 11 12 Education shall conduct a hearing in which the sponsor shall present information indicating that the proposal of the organizer is 13 substantively different in the areas of deficiency identified by the 14 current sponsor from the current proposal as set forth within the 15 charter with its current sponsor. 16

17 2. After the State Board of Education conducts a hearing
18 pursuant to this subsection, the Board shall either approve or deny
19 the proposal.

## 20 3. If the proposal is denied, no sponsor may issue a charter to 21 the charter school governing body.

22 L. J. If a <u>charter</u> contract is not renewed, the governing board 23 of the charter school may submit an application to a proposed new 24 sponsor as provided for in Section 3-134 of this title.

M. K. If a <u>charter</u> contract is not renewed or is terminated according to this section, a student who attended the charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> may enroll in the resident school district of the student or may apply for a transfer in accordance with Section 8-103 of this title.

6 SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-139, is 7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 3-139. A. A sponsoring school district shall determine 9 whether a teacher who is employed by or teaching at a charter school 10 <u>or virtual charter school</u> and who was previously employed as a 11 teacher at the sponsoring public school district shall not lose any 12 right of salary status or any other benefit provided by law due to 13 teaching at a charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> upon 14 returning to the sponsoring public school district to teach.

B. A teacher who is employed by or teaching at a charter school or virtual charter school and who submits an employment application to the school district where the teacher was employed immediately before employment by or at a charter school <u>or virtual charter</u> <u>school</u> shall be given employment preference by the school district if:

The teacher submits an employment application to the school
 district no later than three (3) years after ceasing employment with
 the school district; and

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2. A suitable position is available at the school district.

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1SECTION 10.AMENDATORY70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-140, is2amended to read as follows:

Section 3-140. A. Except for a charter school sponsored by the 3 State Board of Education, a A charter school with a brick-and-mortar 4 5 school site or sites shall enroll those students whose legal residence is within the boundaries of the school district in which 6 the charter school is located and who submit a timely application, 7 or those students who transfer to the district in which the charter 8 9 school is located in accordance with Section 8-103 or 8-104 of this title, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a 10 program, class, grade level, or building. Students who reside in a 11 school district where a charter school is located shall not be 12 required to obtain a transfer in order to attend a charter school in 13 the school district of residence. If capacity is insufficient to 14 enroll all eligible students, the charter school shall select 15 students through a lottery selection process. Except for a charter 16 school sponsored by the State Board of Education, a A charter school 17 shall give enrollment preference to eligible students who reside 18 within the boundaries of the school district in which the charter 19 school is located. Except for a charter school sponsored by the 20 State Board of Education, a charter school created after November 1, 21 2010, shall give enrollment preference to eligible students who 22 reside within the boundaries of the school district in which the 23 charter school is located and who attend a school site that has been 24

1 identified as in need of improvement by the State Board of Education 2 pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended or reauthorized. A charter school may limit admission to 3 students within a given age group or grade level. A charter school 4 5 sponsored by the State Board of Education Statewide Charter School Board when the applicant of the charter school is the Office of 6 Juvenile Affairs shall limit admission to youth that are in the 7 custody or supervision of the Office of Juvenile Affairs. 8

9 B. Except for a charter school sponsored by the State Board of Education, a A charter school shall admit students who reside in the 10 attendance area of a school or in a school district that is under a 11 12 court order of desegregation or that is a party to an agreement with 13 the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights directed towards mediating alleged or proven racial discrimination 14 unless notice is received from the resident school district that 15 admission of the student would violate the court order or agreement. 16

C. A charter school may designate a specific geographic area within the school district in which the charter school is located as an academic enterprise zone and may limit admissions to students who reside within that area. An academic enterprise zone shall be a geographic area in which sixty percent (60%) or more of the children who reside in the area qualify for the free or reduced school lunch program.

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D. Except as provided in subsections B and C of this section, a
 charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall not limit admission
 based on ethnicity, national origin, gender, income level, disabling
 condition, proficiency in the English language, measures of
 achievement, aptitude, or athletic ability.

E. A sponsor of a charter school shall not restrict the number 6 of students a charter school or virtual charter school may enroll. 7 The capacity of the a charter school or virtual charter school shall 8 9 be determined annually quarterly by the governing board of the 10 charter school or virtual charter school based on the ability of the charter school to facilitate the academic success of the students, 11 12 to achieve the other objectives specified in the charter contract, and to ensure that the student enrollment does not exceed the 13 capacity of its facility or site pursuant to the provisions of 14 Section 8-101.2 of this title. 15

F. Beginning July 1, 2023, each statewide virtual charter 16 school which has been approved and sponsored by the Statewide 17 Charter School Board or any virtual charter school for which the 18 Board has assumed sponsorship as provided for in Section 1 of this 19 act shall be considered a statewide virtual charter school and the 20 geographic boundaries of each statewide virtual charter school shall 21 be the borders of the state. 22 G. Beginning July 1, 2023, students enrolled full-time in a 23

24 statewide virtual charter school sponsored by the Statewide Charter

1	School Board shall not be authorized to participate in any
2	activities administered by the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities
3	Association. However, the students may participate in intramural
4	activities sponsored by a statewide virtual charter school, an
5	online provider for the charter school, or any other outside
6	organization.
7	H. 1. Beginning July 1, 2023, a public school student who
8	wishes to enroll in a virtual charter school shall be considered a
9	transfer student from his or her resident school district. A
10	virtual charter school shall pre-enroll any public school student
11	whose parent or legal guardian expresses intent to enroll in the
12	district. Upon pre-enrollment, the State Department of Education
13	shall initiate a transfer on a form to be completed by the receiving
14	virtual charter school. Upon approval of the receiving virtual
15	charter school, the student may begin instructional activities.
16	Upon notice that a public school student has transferred to a
17	virtual charter school, the resident school district shall transmit
18	the student's records within three (3) school days.
19	2. The State Department of Education shall notify the
20	Legislature and Governor if it determines that the information
21	technology infrastructure necessary to process the transfer of
22	students to a virtual charter school is inadequate and additional
23	time is needed for implementation.
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1	3. A public school student may transfer to one statewide
2	virtual charter school at any time during a school year. For
3	purposes of this subsection, "school year" shall mean July 1 through
4	the following June 30. After one statewide virtual charter school
5	transfer during a school year, no public school student shall be
6	permitted to transfer to any other statewide virtual charter school
7	without the concurrence of both the resident school district and the
8	receiving virtual charter school. A student shall have a grace
9	period of fifteen (15) school days from the first day of enrollment
10	in a statewide virtual charter school to withdraw without academic
11	penalty and shall continue to have the option of one virtual charter
12	school transfer without the concurrence of both districts during
13	that same school year. A statewide virtual charter school student
14	that has utilized the allowable one transfer pursuant to this
15	subsection shall not be permitted to transfer to another district or
16	other statewide virtual charter school without first notifying his
17	or her resident district and initiating a new transfer. Upon
18	cancellation of a transfer the virtual charter school shall transmit
19	the student's records to the student's new school district within
20	three (3) school days. Students enrolled in a statewide virtual
21	charter school shall not be required to submit a virtual charter
22	transfer for consecutive years of enrollment. Any student enrolled
23	in a statewide virtual charter school the year prior to the

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1	implementation of this section shall not be required to submit a
2	transfer in order to remain enrolled.
3	I. 1. Beginning July 1, 2023, a student shall be eligible to
4	enroll in a statewide virtual charter school sponsored by the
5	Statewide Charter School Board pursuant to Section 1 of this act if
6	he or she is a student whose parent or legal guardian is transferred
7	or is pending transfer to a military installation within this state
8	while on active military duty pursuant to an official military
9	order.
10	2. A statewide virtual charter school shall accept applications
11	by electronic means for enrollment and course registration for
12	students described in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
13	3. The parent or legal guardian of a student described in
14	paragraph 1 of this subsection shall provide proof of residence in
15	this state within ten (10) days after the published arrival date
16	provided on official documentation. A parent or legal guardian may
17	use the following addresses as proof of residence:
18	a. a temporary on-base billeting facility,
19	b. a purchased or leased home or apartment, or
20	c. <u>federal government or public-private venture off-base</u>
21	military housing.
22	4. The provisions of paragraph 3 of subsection H shall apply to
23	students described in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
24	5. For purposes of this subsection:

1	a. <u>"active military duty" means full-time military duty</u>
2	status in the active uniformed service of the United
3	States including members of the National Guard and
4	Military Reserve on active duty orders, and
5	b. "military installation" means a base, camp, post,
6	station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship,
7	or other installation under the jurisdiction of the
8	Department of Defense or the United States Coast
9	Guard.
10	SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-142, is
11	amended to read as follows:
12	Section 3-142. A. The student membership and attendance of the
13	$\underline{a}$ charter school shall be considered separate from the student
14	membership and attendance of the sponsor for the purpose of
15	calculating enrollment and funding including weighted average daily
16	membership pursuant to Section 18-201.1 of this title and State Aid
17	pursuant to Section 18-200.1 of this title. A charter school shall
18	receive the State Aid allocation, federal funds to which it is
19	eligible and qualifies for <u>,</u> and any other state-appropriated revenue
20	generated by its students for the applicable year. Not more than
21	three percent (3%) of the State Aid allocation may be charged by the
22	sponsor as a fee for administrative services rendered if the sponsor
23	is a school district, a comprehensive or regional institution of
24	higher education, a community college, or a federally recognized

1 Indian tribe pursuant to Section 3-132 of this title. The Statewide 2 Charter School Board shall not charge any charter school or virtual charter school a fee for administrative or other services. 3 The State Board of Education State Department of Education shall 4 5 determine the policy and procedure for making payments to a charter school. The fee for administrative services as authorized in this 6 subsection shall only be assessed on the State Aid allocation amount 7 and shall not be assessed on any other appropriated amounts. A 8 9 sponsor of a charter school shall not charge any additional State Aid allocation or charge the charter school any additional fee above 10 the amounts allowed by this subsection unless the additional fees 11 are for additional services rendered. The charter school sponsor 12 13 shall provide to the State Department of Education financial records documenting any state funds charged by the sponsor for 14 administrative services rendered for the previous year. 15 The fee for administrative services authorized by subsection 16 в. A of this section shall be used by the sponsor to provide oversight 17 and services to the charter school(s) it sponsors. The State 18 Department of Education shall develop data codes for the Oklahoma 19 Cost Accounting System which shall be used to comply with the 20 administrative services reporting required by this subsection. A 21 charter school sponsor shall publish a detailed report on its 22 website and present the report in a public meeting of the charter 23 24 school governing board. The report shall provide sponsor

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performance and stewardship including compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the charter contract and listing expenses related to oversight and services provided by the sponsor to the charter school(s) it authorizes.

5 C. 1. The weighted average daily membership for the first year of operation of a charter school shall be determined initially by 6 multiplying the actual enrollment of students as of August 1 by 7 1.333. The charter school shall receive revenue equal to that which 8 9 would be generated by the estimated weighted average daily 10 membership calculated pursuant to this paragraph. At midyear, the allocation for the charter school shall be adjusted using the first 11 12 quarter weighted average daily membership for the charter school calculated pursuant to subsection A of this section. 13

2. For the purpose of calculating weighted average daily 14 membership pursuant to Section 18-201.1 of this title and State Aid 15 pursuant to Section 18-200.1 of this title, the weighted average 16 daily membership for the first year of operation and each year 17 thereafter of a charter school or full-time statewide virtual 18 charter school sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School 19 Board shall be determined by multiplying the actual enrollment of 20 students as of August 1 by 1.333 1.6. The charter school or full-21 time virtual charter school shall receive revenue equal to that 22 which would be generated by the estimated weighted average daily 23 membership calculated pursuant to this paragraph. At midyear, the 24

allocation for the <u>charter school or</u> full-time statewide virtual
 charter school shall be adjusted using the first quarter weighted
 average daily membership for the <u>charter school or</u> virtual charter
 school calculated pursuant to subsection A of this section.

5 C. D. Except as explicitly authorized by state law, a charter 6 school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall not be eligible to receive 7 state-dedicated, local, or county revenue; provided, a charter 8 school <u>or virtual charter school</u> may be eligible to receive any 9 other aid, grants, or revenues allowed to other schools. A charter 10 school <u>or virtual charter school</u> shall be considered a local 11 education agency for purposes of funding.

12 D. E. Any unexpended funds received by a charter school or virtual charter school may be reserved and used for future purposes. 13 The governing body of a charter school or virtual charter school 14 shall not levy taxes or issue bonds. If otherwise allowed by law, 15 the governing body of a charter school or virtual charter school may 16 enter into private contracts for the purposes of borrowing money 17 from lenders. If the governing body of the charter school or 18 virtual charter school borrows money, the charter school or virtual 19 charter school shall be solely responsible for repaying the debt, 20 and the state or the sponsor shall not in any way be responsible or 21 obligated to repay the debt. 22

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E. F. Any charter school <u>or virtual charter school</u> which
 chooses to lease property shall be eligible to receive current
 government lease rates.

F. G. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, each 4 5 charter school shall pay to the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund created in subsection & H of this section an amount 6 equal to Five Dollars (\$5.00) per student based on average daily 7 membership, as defined by paragraph 2 of Section 18-107 of this 8 9 title, during the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. Each charter school shall complete the payment every school year within 10 thirty (30) days after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. 11 If the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund has a 12 balance of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) or more on July 1, no 13 payment shall be required the following school year. 14

G. H. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving 15 fund for the State Department of Education Statewide Charter School 16 17 Board to be designated the "Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject 18 to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received 19 by the State Department of Education Statewide Charter School Board 20 from charter schools as provided in subsection F of this section. 21 All monies accruing to the credit of said the fund are hereby 22 appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State 23 Department of Education Statewide Charter School Board for the 24

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1 purpose of reimbursing charter school sponsors for costs paying for 2 expenditures incurred due to the closure of a charter school. Expenditures from said the fund shall be made upon warrants issued 3 by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law 4 5 with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment. The State Department of 6 Education may promulgate rules regarding sponsor eligibility for 7 reimbursement. 8

9 SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-143, is 10 amended to read as follows:

Section 3-143. The State Board of Education Statewide Charter 11 12 School Board shall issue an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor outlining the status of charter schools and virtual charter 13 schools in the state. Each charter school and virtual charter 14 school shall annually file a report with the Office of 15 Accountability. The report Statewide Charter School Board that 16 shall include such information as requested by the Office of 17 Accountability, Board including but not limited to information on 18 enrollment, testing, curriculum, finances, and employees. 19

20SECTION 13.AMENDATORY70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-144, is21amended to read as follows:

22 Section 3-144. A. There is hereby created in the State 23 Treasury a fund to be designated the "Charter Schools Incentive 24 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal

1 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies appropriated by 2 the Legislature, gifts, grants, devises, and donations from any 3 public or private source. The State Department of Education Statewide Charter School Board shall administer the fund for the 4 purpose of providing financial support to charter school and virtual 5 charter school applicants and charter schools and virtual charter 6 schools for start-up costs and costs associated with renovating or 7 remodeling existing buildings and structures for use by a charter 8 9 school. The State Department of Education Statewide Charter School 10 Board is authorized to allocate funds on a per-pupil basis for purposes of providing matching funds for the federal State Charter 11 12 School Facilities Incentive Grants Program created pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, 20 USCA, Section 7221d. 13

B. The State Board of Education Statewide Charter School Board
shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section<sub>7</sub>
including application and notification requirements.

17SECTION 14.AMENDATORY70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-145.5, is18amended to read as follows:

19 Section 3-145.5. A. Notwithstanding any other provision of 20 law, beginning July 1, 2014, no school district shall offer full-21 time virtual education to students who are not residents of the 22 school district or enter into a virtual charter school contract with 23 a provider to provide full-time virtual education to students who do 24 not reside within the school district boundaries.

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1	B. Effective July 1, 2014, the Statewide Virtual Charter School
2	Board shall succeed to any contractual rights and responsibilities
3	incurred by a school district in a virtual charter school contract
4	executed prior to January 1, 2014, with a provider to provide full-
5	time virtual education to students who do not reside within the
6	school district boundaries. All property, equipment, supplies,
7	records, assets, current and future liability, encumbrances,
8	obligations and indebtedness associated with the contract shall be
9	transferred to the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board.
10	Appropriate conveyances and other documents shall be executed to
11	effectuate the transfer of any property associated with the
12	contract. Upon succession of the contract, the Board shall assume
13	sponsorship of the virtual charter school for the remainder of the
14	term of the contract. Prior to the end of the current term of the
15	contract, the Board shall allow the provider of the virtual charter
16	school to apply for renewal of the contract with the Board in
17	accordance with the renewal procedures established pursuant to
18	Section 3-145.3 of this title.
19	SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-145.7, is
20	amended to read as follows:
21	Section 3-145.7. There Until July 1, 2023, there is hereby
22	created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Statewide
23	Virtual Charter School Board to be designated the "Statewide Virtual
24	Charter School Board Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a

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1 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the Statewide Virtual Charter 2 School Board from State Aid pursuant to Section 3-145.3 of Title 70 3 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title or any other state 4 5 appropriation. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the 6 Statewide Virtual Charter School Board for the purpose of supporting 7 the mission of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board. 8 9 Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the 10 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for 11 12 approval and payment.

On July 1, 2023, the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board shall transfer any unencumbered funds in the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Revolving Fund to the Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 3 of this act. Any funds which are unexpended on January 1, 2024, shall be transferred to the Statewide Charter School Board Revolving Fund.

19SECTION 16.AMENDATORY70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-145.8, is20amended to read as follows:

Section 3-145.8. A. It shall be the duty of each virtual
charter school approved and sponsored by the Statewide Virtual
School Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 3-145.3 of Title
70 of the Oklahoma Statutes Statewide Charter School Board to keep a

1 full and complete record of the attendance of all students enrolled 2 in the virtual charter school in one of the student information 3 systems approved by the State Department of Education and locally 4 selected by the virtual school from the approved list.

B. By July 1, 2020, the governing body of each virtual charter
school shall adopt an attendance policy. The policy may allow
attendance to be a proportional amount of the required attendance
policy provisions based upon the date of enrollment of the student.
The attendance policy shall include the following provisions:

The first date of attendance and membership shall be the
 first date the student completes an instructional activity.

12 2. A student who attends a virtual charter school shall be13 considered in attendance for a quarter if the student:

a. completes instructional activities on no less than
ninety percent (90%) of the days within the quarter,
b. is on pace for on-time completion of the course as
defined by the governing board of the virtual charter
school, or

c. completes no less than seventy-two instructional
 activities within the quarter of the academic year.
 3. For a student who does not meet any of the criteria set
 forth in paragraph 1 or 2 of this subsection, the amount of
 attendance recorded shall be the greater of:

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- a. the number of school days during which the student
   completed the instructional activities during the
   quarter,
- b. the number of school days proportional to the
  percentage of the course that has been completed, or
  c. the number of school days proportional to the
  percentage of the required minimum number of completed
  instructional activities during the quarter.

9 C. For the purposes of this section, "instructional activities" 10 shall include instructional meetings with a teacher, completed 11 assignments that are used to record a grade for a student that is 12 factored into the student's grade for the semester during which the 13 assignment is completed, testing, and school-sanctioned field trips, 14 and orientation.

Each statewide virtual charter school approved and sponsored 15 D. by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board pursuant to the 16 provisions of Section 3-145.3 of this title Statewide Charter School 17 Board shall offer a student orientation, notify the parent or legal 18 guardian and each student who enrolls in that school of the 19 requirement to participate in the student orientation, and require 20 all students enrolled to complete the student orientation prior to 21 completing any other instructional activity. The Statewide Virtual 22 Charter School Board Statewide Charter School Board shall promulgate 23 rules to develop materials for orientation. 24

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E. Any student that is behind pace and does not complete an instructional activity for a fifteen-school-day period shall be withdrawn for truancy. The virtual charter school shall submit a notification to the parent or legal guardian of a student who has been withdrawn for truancy or is approaching truancy.

F. A student who is reported for truancy two times in the same
school year shall be withdrawn and prohibited from enrolling in the
same virtual charter school for the remainder of the school year.

9 G. The governing body of each statewide virtual charter school 10 shall develop, adopt, and post on the school's website a policy regarding consequences for a student's failure to attend school and 11 complete instructional activities. The policy shall state, at a 12 13 minimum, that if a student fails to consistently attend school and complete instructional activities after receiving a notification 14 pursuant to subsection E of this section and reasonable intervention 15 strategies have been implemented, a student shall be subject to 16 certain consequences including withdrawal from the school for 17 truancy. 18

H. If a statewide virtual charter school withdraws a student pursuant to subsections F and G of this section, the virtual charter school shall immediately notify the student's resident district in writing of the student's disenrollment.

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1 I. The provisions of subsections F,  $G_{\underline{i}}$  and H of this section 2 shall not be in effect until the implementation of subsection  $\underline{H} \underline{D}$  of 3 Section 3-145.3 of this title.

J. The Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Statewide Charter
School Board may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of
this section.

7 SECTION 17. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.704,
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 Section 1210.704. A. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year,
10 all public high schools in this state shall make a minimum of four
11 advanced placement courses available to students.

B. Local <u>School district</u> boards of education in each district shall be responsible for ensuring annually that all high school students have access to advanced placement courses beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Such access may be provided through enrollment in courses offered through:

17 1. A school site or sites within the district;

18 2. A career and technology institution technology center school 19 within the district;

3. A <u>An online learning</u> program offered by the <del>Statewide</del>
 Virtual Charter School Board <u>Statewide Charter School Board</u> or one
 of its vendors; or

23 4. A school site or sites in another school district.

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C. The Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Statewide Charter 1 2 School Board shall maintain an online learning platform to provide high quality online learning opportunities for Oklahoma students 3 that are aligned with the subject matter standards adopted by the 4 5 State Board of Education pursuant to Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title. The Board shall implement online 6 courses, with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and 7 math (STEM) courses, foreign language courses, and advanced 8 9 placement courses. The online platform shall be available to all Oklahoma school districts. 10

The State Department of Education shall provide information 11 D. to all local boards of education, to be distributed to their 12 13 students and parents, on available opportunities and the enrollment process for students to take advanced placement courses. 14 The information shall explain the value of advanced placement courses in 15 preparing students for postsecondary-level coursework, enabling 16 17 students to gain access to postsecondary opportunities, and qualifying for scholarships and other financial aid opportunities. 18

E. The State Department of Education shall retain records of which options outlined in subsection B of this section <del>local</del> boards of education selected for their students and make the information available on the Department's website.

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1	F. As used in this section, "advanced placement course" shall
2	have the same meaning as provided in paragraph 1 of Section 1210.702
3	of <del>Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes</del> this title.
4	SECTION 18. REPEALER 70 O.S. 2021, Sections 3-135, 3-
5	145.1, 3-145.2, 3-145.3, and 3-145.4, are hereby repealed.
6	SECTION 19. Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
7	16, 17, and 18 of this act shall become effective July 1, 2023.
8	SECTION 20. Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act shall become
9	effective July 1, 2022.
10	SECTION 21. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
11	of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
12	declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
13	be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
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