

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 924

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; prohibiting public school districts and public charter schools from using certain programs of instruction; directing the State Board of Education to provide notification of a violation beginning in certain school year; directing reduction in certain monthly funding distribution for failure to remedy a violation; directing the State Board of Education to contract with an education ombudsman; providing minimum qualifications and duties of education ombudsman; directing the education ombudsman to submit certain biennial report; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.508H of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. No public school district or public charter school in this state shall use a program of instruction for students in

1 kindergarten through second grade that is based in any practice or
2 intervention program that utilizes:

3 1. The three-cueing system model of reading;

4 2. Visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word
5 recognition; or

6 3. The three-cueing system model of reading based on meaning,
7 structure, syntax, and visual, which is also known as "MSV".

8 B. 1. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, if the State
9 Board of Education determines that a public school district or
10 public charter school is violating the provisions of subsection A of
11 this section, the Board shall notify the district or charter school
12 of its violation.

13 2. If a public school district or public charter school fails
14 to remedy its violation within sixty (60) days of notification from
15 the State Board of Education, the Board shall direct the withholding
16 of a maximum of ten percent (10%) of the monthly distribution of
17 State Aid funding for the month following the failure to remedy and
18 each month thereafter until the Board determines that the district
19 or charter school has complied with subsection A of this section.

20 C. The State Board of Education shall contract with an
21 education ombudsman to assist in the enforcement of this section.
22 The minimum qualifications for an education ombudsman shall include
23 a master's degree in education or a related field. A current or
24 former public school district or public charter school

1 superintendent shall not be eligible to serve as an education
2 ombudsman. The duties of an education ombudsman may include:

3 1. Communication with:

4 a. a public school district or public charter school
5 student, with permission from the student's parent or
6 legal guardian,

7 b. a parent or legal guardian of a public school district
8 or public charter school student, and

9 c. administrators, teachers, and staff employed by a
10 public school district or public charter school;

11 2. Review an issue or concern related to the education of a
12 public school district or public charter school student;

13 3. Recommend training and resources to a public school district
14 or public charter school; and

15 4. Request support and assistance from the State Department of
16 Education for a public school district or public charter school.

17 D. The education ombudsman shall prepare and submit to the
18 State Board of Education and the education committees of the Senate
19 and House of Representatives a biennial report detailing the work of
20 the education ombudsman for the previous year and any
21 recommendations related to the focus areas of the education
22 ombudsman.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.
24
25

1 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
2 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5
6 59-1-717 EB 1/19/2023 10:48:50 AM
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25