

**Bill Summary**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

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| <b>Bill No.:</b>    | <b>SB 140</b>     |
| <b>Version:</b>     | <b>INT</b>        |
| <b>Request No.:</b> | <b>832</b>        |
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 140 creates the Oklahoma Science Education Act. The measure directs the State Board of Education, school district boards of education, and school superintendents and principals to assist teachers to find effective ways to present science curriculum as it addresses scientific controversies. The measure states that neither the State Board of Education, nor any school district board of education or school superintendent or principal shall prohibit a public school teacher from helping students understand, analyze, critique, and review in an objective manner the scientific strengths and weaknesses of existing scientific theories using evidence-based, peer-reviewed material. It clarifies that the bill shall not be construed as promoting any religious or non-religious doctrine, discrimination for or against a particular set of religious beliefs or non-beliefs, or discrimination for or against religion or nonreligion. The bill requires the State Department of Education to notify boards of education and superintendents of the Oklahoma Science Education Act by the start of the 2023-2024 school year. It also provides to teachers who comply with the Oklahoma Science Education Act immunity from civil liability and termination of employment.

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