

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 819
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Author:	Sen. Dahm
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Bill Analysis

SB 819 creates the Professional Teacher Charter Act allowing a certified teacher who has 5 years of teaching experience or a consortium of certified teachers who each have 5 years of teaching experience to sponsor a professional teacher charter school. It establishes requirements for the charter school including application procedures, governance guidelines, and contract terms. The bill requires a professional teacher charter school to ensure that each enrolled student takes a nationally norm-referenced test once each year, post on its website information about curriculum and instructional materials, and have independent control over curriculum and personnel decisions. The measure states that a professional teacher charter school is not required to participate in the Oklahoma School Testing Program, participate in the school accountability system, employ certified individuals, comply with minimum salary and benefits, or comply with provisions regarding the length of the school day or the school year. The measure states that a professional teacher charter school's boundaries are the boundaries of the state. It states that if a professional teacher charter is established as a for-profit entity, it shall retain property purchased by the charter school; if the charter is established as a non-profit entity, property reverts to the State Board of Education. It creates the Professional Teacher Charter Student Revolving Fund to be used in the event a professional teacher charter school ceases operations. The bill provides for calculation of State Aid for a professional teacher charter school.

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