

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 HOUSE BILL 2670

By: Steagall

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to parental rights; amending 25 O.S.
8 2021, Section 2003, which relates to parental
9 involvement; providing that parent may submit written
10 complaint to superintendent; providing that
11 superintendent respond within certain amount of time;
12 providing that parent may appeal actions; authorizing
Board of Education to appoint an investigative
committee; providing that committee respond within
certain amount of time; providing that parent or
district attorney may file suit for violation;
providing relief; and providing an effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 25 O.S. 2021, Section 2003, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 2003. A. The board of education of a school district,
20 in consultation with parents, teachers and administrators, shall
21 develop and adopt a policy to promote the involvement of parents and
22 guardians of children enrolled in the schools within the school
23 district, including:
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1 1. A plan for parent participation in the schools which is
2 designed to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as
3 homework, attendance and discipline;

4 2. Procedures by which parents may learn about the course of
5 study for their children and review learning materials, including
6 the source of any supplemental educational materials;

7 3. Procedures by which parents who object to any learning
8 material or activity on the basis that it is harmful may withdraw
9 their children from the activity or from the class or program in
10 which the material is used. Objection to a learning material or
11 activity on the basis that it is harmful includes objection to a
12 material or activity because it questions beliefs or practices in
13 sex, morality or religion;

14 4. If a school district offers any sex education curricula
15 pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes or
16 pursuant to any rules adopted by the State Board of Education,
17 procedures to opt out of a school district from providing sex
18 education instruction to a child if the child's parent provides
19 written objection to the child's participation in the sex education
20 curricula;

21 5. Procedures by which parents will be notified in advance of
22 and given the opportunity to withdraw their children from any
23 instruction or presentations regarding sexuality in courses other
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1 than formal sex education curricula pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of
2 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3 6. Procedures by which parents may learn about the nature and
4 purpose of clubs and activities that are part of the school
5 curriculum, as well as extracurricular clubs and activities that
6 have been approved by the school; and

7 7. Procedures by which parents may learn about parental rights
8 and responsibilities under the laws of this state, including the
9 following:

- 10 a. the right to opt out of a sex education curriculum if
11 one is provided by the school district,
- 12 b. open enrollment rights,
- 13 c. the right to opt out of assignments pursuant to this
14 section,
- 15 d. the right to be exempt from the immunization laws of
16 the state pursuant to Section 1210.192 of Title 70 of
17 the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 18 e. the promotion requirements prescribed in Section
19 1210.508E of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 20 f. the minimum course of study and competency
21 requirements for graduation from high school
22 prescribed in Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the
23 Oklahoma Statutes,
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- 1 g. the right to opt out of instruction on the acquired
2 immune deficiency syndrome pursuant to Section 11-
3 103.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
4 h. the right to review test results,
5 i. the right to participate in gifted programs pursuant
6 to Sections 1210.301 through 1210.308 of Title 70 of
7 the Oklahoma Statutes,
8 j. the right to inspect instructional materials used in
9 connection with any research or experimentation
10 program or project pursuant to Section 11-106 of Title
11 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
12 k. the right to receive a school report card,
13 l. the attendance requirements prescribed in Section 10-
14 106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
15 m. the right to public review of courses of study and
16 textbooks,
17 n. the right to be excused from school attendance for
18 religious purposes,
19 o. policies related to parental involvement pursuant to
20 this section,
21 p. the right to participate in parent-teacher
22 associations and organizations that are sanctioned by
23 the board of education of a school district, and
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1 q. the right to opt out of any data collection instrument
2 at the district level that would capture data for
3 inclusion in the state longitudinal student data
4 system except what is necessary and essential for
5 establishing a student's public school record.

6 B. The board of education of a school district may adopt a
7 policy to provide to parents the information required by this
8 section in an electronic form.

9 C. A parent shall submit a written request for information
10 pursuant to this section during regular business hours to either the
11 school principal at the school site or the superintendent of the
12 school district at the office of the school district. Within ten
13 (10) days of receiving the request for information, the school
14 principal or the superintendent of the school district shall either
15 deliver the requested information to the parent or submit to the
16 parent a written explanation of the reasons for the denial of the
17 requested information. If the request for information is denied or
18 the parent does not receive the requested information within fifteen
19 (15) days after submitting the request for information, the parent
20 may submit a written request for the information to the board of
21 education of a school district, which shall formally consider the
22 request at the next scheduled public meeting of the board if the
23 request can be properly noticed on the agenda. If the request
24 cannot be properly noticed on the agenda, the board of education of

1 a school district shall formally consider the request at the next
2 subsequent public meeting of the board.

3 D. A parent may submit a written complaint detailing any
4 violation of this section to the superintendent of the school
5 district. The parent shall be entitled to a meeting with the
6 superintendent to discuss the complaint if desired by the parent.
7 The superintendent shall investigate the complaint and respond to
8 the parent in writing within fourteen (14) days after receiving the
9 complaint describing the actions the superintendent shall take to
10 remedy the complaint.

11 E. A parent may appeal the actions of the superintendent to the
12 Board of Education by submitting a written complaint detailing the
13 violation and a description of why the superintendent's response
14 failed to remedy the complaint. The Board of Education shall
15 appoint a committee to investigate any such complaints. The
16 committee shall meet with the parent to discuss the complaint.
17 Within thirty (30) days of receiving the complaint, the committee
18 shall submit a recommended response and proposed steps to remedy the
19 complaint to the Board for action by the Board at the next regularly
20 scheduled meeting.

21 F. If the Board's action does not remedy a complaint, a parent
22 or a district attorney with jurisdiction over the school district
23 may file suit and assert a violation of this section as a claim
24 against the school district.

1 G. A parent or district attorney that successfully asserts a
2 claim may recover:

3 1. declaratory relief;

4 2. injunctive relief to prevent or remedy a violation of this
5 section or the effects of such a violation;

6 3. reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

7 4. any other appropriate relief.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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