

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 22, 2025

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1483

By: Johns and Deck of the House

5 and

6 Thompson of the Senate

7  
8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
9 Section 6-101.6b, which relates to whistleblower  
10 protections; defining term; extending applicability  
11 of protections to support employees; updating  
12 statutory citation; providing an effective date; and  
13 declaring an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-101.6b, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6-101.6b. A. For purposes of this section, ~~"teacher":~~

18 1. "Teacher" means the term as defined in paragraph 1 of  
19 Section 1-116 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title; and

20 2. "Support employee" means the term as defined in paragraph 9  
21 of Section 1-116 of this title.

22 B. No school district shall prohibit or take disciplinary  
23 action against teachers or support employees for:  
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1 1. Disclosing public information to correct what the teacher or  
2 support employee reasonably believes evidences a violation of the  
3 Oklahoma Constitution or law or a rule promulgated pursuant to law;

4 2. Reporting a violation of the Oklahoma Constitution or state  
5 or federal law; or

6 3. Taking any of the above actions without giving prior notice  
7 to the teacher's or support employee's supervisor or anyone else in  
8 the ~~teacher's~~ relevant chain of command.

9 C. For the purposes of this section, "reporting" means  
10 providing a spoken or written account to a supervising teacher,  
11 administrator, school board member, representative from the State  
12 Department of Education, law enforcement official, district  
13 attorney, and/or parent or legal guardian of a student directly  
14 impacted by the actions.

15 D. Each school district shall prominently post or publish a  
16 copy of this section of law in locations where it can reasonably be  
17 expected to come to the attention of all teachers and support  
18 employees.

19 E. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow a  
20 teacher or support employee to violate students' or parents' rights  
21 to confidentiality and protection under the Family Educational  
22 Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.  
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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 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
6 April 22, 2025 - DO PASS  
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