

JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oklahoma State Board of Education **FROM:** Superintendent Joy Hofmeister

DATE: May 27, 2021

SUBJECT: Active education-related bills as of May 21, 2021

Note: Bills designated as NEW have not been included in a prior memorandum. Bills without a Governor's signature are still active and may be considered prior to the Legislature's Sine Die adjournment. Bills that failed to advance, but were included in a prior memorandum are noted in the last section.

Academic Counseling

<u>HB2750</u> – Requires colleges and universities within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education to grant course credit to students who score a 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam. Colleges and universities must post their credit policy regarding Advanced Placement exams on their websites, beginning with the 2021-2022 fall academic term, and must conduct biennial reviews of the policy. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

SB132 – Amends the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP) to allow students in public or private high schools to enroll in the program prior to their eleventh-grade year, instead of prior to their tenth grade year, or prior to turning 16-years-old if educated by other means. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

SB261 – Creates the Oklahoma Student Borrower's Bill of Rights Act, directing the Attorney General to compose the "Oklahoma Student Borrower's Bill of Rights" for a student loan borrower who takes out a student education loan with a student loan servicer. The statement must include plain and clear language prohibiting a student loan servicer from engaging in any act that misleads, deceives, or defrauds student borrowers. Loan servicers are also prohibited from making false statements or omitting material facts when submitting reports to a governmental agency. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.27.21)

SB292 – Creates a 14-member task force to study and make recommendations regarding current and future concurrent enrollment needs of the state and pathways for awarding degrees and certificates through concurrent enrollment. Three members of the task force will be school district superintendents and must be appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction within thirty days of the bill's effective date. The task force must submit a report of its findings to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House by November 30, 2022 and then dissolve. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

SB317 – Allows anyone aged 16 or older currently enrolled in high school and a work-ready program, to be licensed as a student electrical intern under the Construction Industries Board (CIB) after completing a national criminal background check as required by the Board. A student intern certificate will be effective for one year, separate from the existing apprenticeship certificate, and issued upon payment of a fee after meeting requirements prescribed by the Board. Lastly, places of cap of one intern per physical job site under direct supervision by a single journeyman or contractor, provided the intern will not count towards the cap on apprentices allowed to work under a single supervisor. Interns are prohibited from working on high voltage systems defined by the National Electrical Code. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.22.21)

<u>SB619</u> – Permits the governing body of any school to obtain liability insurance coverage to protect a student who participates in an apprenticeship, internship or mentorship program. Prohibits schools from charging the student or parent for the cost of providing insurance. Requires the State Board of Education to review apprenticeships, internships and mentorships to determine if they are eligible for academic credit toward graduation. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

SB639 – Requires the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to administer a survey to students receiving Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP) awards who withdraw from institutions of higher education prior to completing a program or degree. The survey must gather information on a student's reasons for withdraw, barriers to program completion, and the student's future plans. Beginning December 31, 2022, the State Regents must submit an annual report to the Legislature on the impact of OHLAP (also known as Oklahoma's Promise). The report must contain information on retention and graduations rates, as well as the number of participating students who remain state residents one year following graduation and the industry in which they find employment. Effective November 1, 2021. (Sent to Governor)

Accountability, Assessments, Student Info

<u>HB1104</u> – Requires schools to collect student tribal affiliation data alongside other demographic data collected as part of the "Student Data Accessibility, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2013". Effective 90 days after Sine Die. (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

<u>HB1715</u> – Repeals the requirement that students must pass the 8th grade English Language Arts (ELA) test to receive their driver's permit. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.26.21)

<u>HB1875</u> – Prohibits an educational agency or institution that is not the primary custodian of student directory information of attending students from releasing or selling any student directory information unless otherwise allowed by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or state statute. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.10.21)

<u>HB2030</u> – Requires the Oklahoma subject matter standards for history, social studies, and U.S. Government to include the study of important historical documents, including the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Emancipation Proclamation, and Federalist Papers; simulations of the democratic process; and lessons on the structure and relationship between the levels of government. Beginning with ninth graders in the 2021 school year (class of 2025), students are

required to earn a passing score of 60 out of 100 questions on the United States naturalization test to graduate high school. School districts must offer the test at least once per year, beginning as early as eighth grade, and provide retakes as often as requested until a passing score is earned. Students with disabilities who are assessed through the Oklahoma Alternate Assessment Program (OAAP) are exempt from the requirement. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

<u>SB642</u> – Requires school districts to provide all students grades 10 through 12 an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Test and consult with a military recruiter beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.27.21)

Certification, Retirement

<u>HB1796</u> – Allows the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Commission for Education Quality and Accountability, to grant subject area examination exceptions for initial teacher certification in a field that does not require an advanced degree if the candidate already has an advanced degree in the subject substantially comparable to the content assessed in the examination. This exception currently only exists for alternatively certified teachers. <u>Effective</u> upon its passage and approval. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

<u>HB2693</u> – Requires the State Department of Education, in coordination with OEQA, to establish a micro-credential program in civics by July 1, 2022, with the program being available to certified teachers beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. The Department and OEQA are required to convene a working group with pertinent stakeholders to determine the program's requirements and teachers earning the designation will receive a one-time salary supplement of \$3,000, subject to the availability of funding. Additionally, the Department must develop professional development (PD) programs on civics with specified areas of emphasis and identify regional civics coaches to assist in administering the programs. Lastly, the statewide assessment for U.S. History is repealed. Effective July 1, 2021.

<u>HB2748</u> – Requires the State Board of Education to issue a one-year alternative teacher certificate, renewable for up to three years, to early childhood or elementary education candidates who declare their intention to earn standard certification within three years. Candidates may enter the classroom immediately as they work toward full certification provided they meet certain benchmarks each year which include completing credit hours and receiving instructional coaching in the areas of reading, classroom management, child development, and math instruction. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

HB2752 – Requires the State Department of Education, in coordination with the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (OEQA), to establish a micro-credential program for teachers and teaching candidates to earn microcredentials in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) endorsement areas including computer science, upon the completion of additional coursework. The Department and OEQA will convene a working group with "pertinent education stakeholders" to determine eligible uses for STEM microcredentials, including add-on endorsements for teachers in STEM endorsement areas such as computer science, and satisfying the requirements for the OSAT examination and professional development. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

<u>HB2329</u> – Allows the State Board of Education to grant an exception to the requirements for all certification examinations to deaf teachers who are fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and who will be teaching exclusively in settings requiring the use of ASL. <u>Effective July 1, 2021</u>. (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

<u>SB13</u> – Requires a teacher whose certificate is suspended by the State Board of Education to be placed on suspension while proceedings for revocation or other action are pending before the Board. These actions do not preclude the initiation of due process procedures under the Teacher Due Process Act. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

Children, Families, Students

<u>HB1882</u> – Creates the "Out-of-Schooltime Task Force", directed to identify ways to increase and improve the number of quality, affordable out-of-school programs in the state and report findings to the Oklahoma Legislature and Governor by December 1, 2022. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has a seat on the task force, two appointments, and is required to call the task force's first meeting by February 1, 2022, at which a chair and vice-chair will be selected. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.11.21)

<u>SB104</u> – Authorizes physical therapy sessions to be provided in person or remotely via telehealth to individuals or groups and defines telehealth and telecommunication. <u>Effective November 1</u>, <u>2021</u>. (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

SB131 – Creates the Ensuring Access to Medicaid Act, establishing guidelines and Legislative oversight of the state's Medicaid program as expanded under the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's (OHCA) managed care plan. Formally defines managed care organization (MCO) in statute and requires such entities meet network adequacy standards developed by OHCA. Specifies which Medicaid-eligible individuals OHCA may require to enroll in the managed care program and which are exempt from such a requirement. Establishes guidelines for claim payments and denials by MCOs. Requires OHCA to develop a quarterly scorecard assessing the quality of services provided by MCOs operating within the state. Lastly, requires OHCA to seek approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in implementing the Act. Effective September 1, 2021. (Sent to Governor)

<u>SB126</u> – Amends the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program by clarifying that participating private schools must prohibit discrimination exclusively on the basis of race, color and national origin. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u>

<u>SB283</u> – Requires anyone found guilty of furnishing alcoholic beverages to persons under 21 years of age to attend a victims impact panel program in addition to existing punishments. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.27.21)

Curriculum

<u>HB1569</u> – Creates the Oklahoma Play to Learn Act, allowing early childhood educators to employ play-based learning techniques and school districts to provide related professional development. States that school districts may not prohibit a teacher from using play-based

learning in early childhood education. The State Board of Education is tasked with developing guidelines for the professional development programs. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.11.21)

<u>HB1775</u> – Prohibits any employee of a school district, including a charter school, from requiring or incorporating into course material concepts related to inherent superiority or inferiority on the basis of race or sex. Clarifies that this prohibition does not apply to concepts aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards. Additionally, the bill prohibits any institution of higher education from requiring any employee or student to engage in any form of mandatory sexual diversity training or counseling, provided voluntary counseling be allowable. Lastly, the State Board of Education and the State Regents for Higher Education must develop rules to implement these provisions subject to Legislative approval. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.7.21)

HB2749 – Requires school districts receiving more than \$2,500 in Reading Sufficiency Act (RSA) appropriations, to spend a minimum of 10% of those funds on professional development on the Science of Reading for pre-k through fifth grade teachers beginning in the 2022-2023 school year. The professional development must include training on the cognitive science of how students learn to read, and be selected from an approved list of evidence-based programs compiled by the State Department of Education prior to June 30, 2022. Effective 90 days after Sine Die. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

SB89 – Creates the Health Education Act, requiring that all PK-12 students receive instruction on the Oklahoma Health Academic Standards beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. Directs the Department to develop a micro-credential for teachers assigned the responsibility of teaching health education and to create professional development programs to help teachers provide health education instruction. Teachers providing stand-alone health education courses must be certified in physical or health education and the Department may issue 2-year provisional certificates in this area. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

SB252 – Requires all public high schools to offer a minimum of one grade-appropriate computer science course to students each year. All public middle and elementary schools must offer instruction aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Computer Science, which may be offered through a stand-alone course or within an existing course. These requirements are to take effect beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Starting June 30, 2025, each school district will submit an annual report to OSDE regarding the computer science courses offered. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.3.21)

Charter Schools

(New) <u>HB2966</u> – Enacts comprehensive revisions to the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act. Clarifies that all charter schools are to be governed by their board and not any other body and that the board fully comply with the Open Meetings and Open Records Act. Supplements the continuing education requirements of virtual charter board members with a minimum of two hours of instruction provided by the State Auditor. Additionally, virtual board members appointed prior to July 1, 2019, must become compliant with the standard twelve hours of instruction required of all board members within fifteen months of the bill's effective date. Prohibits a charter from providing or supplementing instruction of students enrolled in private

schools. Creates new requirements for charter contracts, including that sponsors be promptly notified of any significant adverse issues, claims, or proceedings involving the charter and that charters receive annual performance evaluations that are fully aligned with the performance framework provided in the bill. Formally defines "separate and distinct" such that a governing board is prohibited from combining certain administrative functions or reporting of multiple charters it oversees. Specifies that sponsors are to use reserved administrative services fees to provide oversight and allowable services to the sponsored school and requires that a detailed report of such expenditures be provided on the sponsor's website. Requires sponsors to conduct a comprehensive performance report prior to the fourth year of a contract, which must include annual performance framework evaluations and a review of the operating agreement if the charter contracts with an EMO. Among other things, the report must provide notice of any violations or deficiencies that could jeopardize contract renewal. The sponsor is tasked with developing a corrective action plan and timeline to remedy identified issues and maintains the right to terminate the contract for failure to address issues in a timely manner or otherwise meet performance framework requirements. Prohibits an EMO contracting with multiple charters from comingling funds of separate schools.

Creates numerous requirements for charters contracting with EMOs, with most changes taking effect in the 2021-2022 school year. Such charters are required to include a parent, grandparent, or learning coach of an attending student on the 5-member charter governing board. Requires the board to submit copies of the charter's EMO contract to the State Department of Education, which must then publish on its website the contract along with all related management fees paid to the EMO. Caps the amount of funds that can be paid to an EMO as a management fee at 12% of funds appropriated to the charter school. Provides that state appropriated funds of EMOcontracting charters are to remain in public accounts, subject to audit, and may not be converted into private funds except to cover the expenses of the charter and to compensate the EMO pursuant to the contract. Should a question as to the proper use funds arise, the EMO is required to provide financial documentation to the requesting party to prove compliance. Similarly, any state dollars appropriated to student learning funds for the benefit of students and their extracurricular activities must be maintained in public accounts subject to audit and oversight. Additionally, requires any entity contracting with a charter school in managing student learning funds/services to have a written contract explicitly indicating goods and services being rendered and have a criminal background check on file with the Department of Education for each employee who will have contact with students. The State Auditor is required to conduct an audit in the third year of the charter's contract, reviewing the charter's operating agreement with the EMO and determining if the contracting parties are compliant with state and federal law. Establishes various safeguards to prevent EMOs from enacting undue influence over a contracting charter or otherwise using charter resources and employees to benefit the EMO. Requires any teacher who has had his or her teaching certificate suspended for violation of contract by entering into another teaching contract without release from the former contract to not receive credit for teaching during the time of suspension. Lastly, requires that any costs for administrative services paid to an EMO be included in the calculation for penalties assessed for excessive administrative services. Effective July 1, 2021.

Employment, Personnel, Compensation

<u>HB1876</u> – Clarifies that personal information of current and former public employees including home addresses, home phone numbers, Social Security numbers, private email addresses and

mobile numbers are not open to public inspection or disclosure, with the exception of public records created using a private email address or mobile phone. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.3.21)

<u>SB121</u> – Requires local boards of education to adopt a policy allowing school employees who are lactating to take paid break time to maintain their milk supply and comfort. This break time may run concurrently with any break time already provided to the employee and the board must make a reasonable effort to provide a private, sanitary room for expressing milk or breastfeeding. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

<u>SB267</u> – Beginning July 1, 2021 a retired member of the Teachers' Retirement System may return as a classroom teacher with no earnings limitation provided they have been retired for at least one year and have not been employed at a school district during that time. The bill's provisions expire after three years. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.3.21)

<u>SB683</u> – Retroactively removes the requirement that full-time support personnel be regularly employed for more than one year to participate in the Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement System (OTRS) from August 2, 1969 through the bill's effective date. Upon the effective date, current personnel who are regularly employed for at least 20 hours per week will have thirty days to opt out of the System or be enrolled automatically. The option for membership and the ensuing thirty-day opt out window will also apply to all eligible new hires. <u>Effective 90 days after Sine Die.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.7.21)

<u>SB807</u> – Requires that school support employees be entitled to pay for any time lost when a school district is closed due to an epidemic or order issued by an authorized health officer. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

(New) <u>SB1038</u> – Clarifies that student teachers are eligible to receive compensation from the beginning of any teaching internship and eliminates language that could be interpreted as prohibitive of the practice. Compensation for student teachers will not be considered compensation for purposes of teacher retirement or the minimum salary schedule. <u>Effective July 1, 2021</u>. (Signed by Governor)

Funding, Budget

<u>HB1968</u> – Eliminates duplicative annual school expenditures report for Gifted and Talented (GT) programs that must be provided to OSDE by August 1. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval</u>. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

HB2078 – Revises the calculation of Oklahoma's school funding formula beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, requiring that Initial State Aid be allocated based on the weighted average daily membership (WADM) from the preceding school year rather than the higher of the prior two years. Requires that the mid-year adjustment be allocated based on either the WADM of the first nine weeks of the current school year, or the WADM of the preceding school year, whichever is higher, rather than the highest WADM of the current or prior two school years. Lastly, the allowable percentages of general fund carryover are increased from between three and eight percent, depending on the general fund collections of the district, and excess carryover

penalties for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 are waived. The bill's provisions are contingent on the enactment of S.B. 783. Effective July 1, 2022. (Signed by Governor 3.31.21)

<u>HB2776</u> – Creates the "Protecting Revenues for Oklahoma Teachers, Educators and Students (PROTEST) Fund" consisting of ad valorem funds under protest and monies from the Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund. Directs the Oklahoma Tax Commission to accept claims from school districts affected by protested ad valorem taxes and disburse funds to the local school board. Upon settlement and dispersal of protested ad valorem dollars, the receiving school board is required to reimburse the Fund. Reimbursement claims are limited to fifty percent of the amount of ad valorem funds under protest. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u>

(New) <u>HB2890</u> – Waives the general fund balance penalty for all school districts in fiscal years 2020 through 2023, clarifying the intent of the waiver established in HB2078. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

(New) <u>HB2893</u> – Restores apportionment increase schedules for the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System, Oklahoma Firefighters Pension System, and the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Employees Retirement System to levels prior to HB2742 (2020), which redirected funds temporarily to the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund. \$45,591,612 in accruing revenue will be reverted from the 1017 Fund to the pension systems. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

(New) <u>HB2894</u> – Restores sales, use, and income tax apportionment increase schedules for the Teachers' Retirement System Dedicated Revenue Revolving Fund and the General Revenue (GR) Fund to levels prior to HB2741 (2020), which redirected funds temporarily to the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund. \$87,446,788 in accruing revenue will be reverted from the 1017 Fund to the pension. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

(New) HB2895 – Updates the funding mechanism for the Rebuilding Oklahoma Access and Driver Safety (ROADS) Fund. It apportions \$80 million to the fund for the purpose of making required payments for principal, interest or other costs of borrowing, and further authorizes apportionment of an amount necessary to bring the fund's levels up to \$575 million for FY21 and \$590 million for FY22 and every year after. Repeals language that would have appropriated \$180 million to the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund in FY22. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.24.21)

(New) HB2900 – Makes general appropriations (GA) for fiscal year 2022 to the various agencies of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government. It appropriates \$3,164,386,184 to the State Board of Education, a \$171,656,370 (5.7 percent) increase from prior the year. Notable differences from the prior year include an additional \$136 million to the school funding formula, \$60 million for textbooks and instructional materials (nearly doubling the customary amount), and an additional \$8 million for Public School Activities. The Flexible Benefit Allowance (FBA) amounts for both certified and support personnel remain steady from the prior year. These appropriations are sufficient to bring total funding to the levels needed to trigger class size requirements for kindergarten and first grade established by HB1017 (1990). Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.24.21)

(New) <u>HB2946</u> – Provides a sales tax exemption rebate for the sale, lease, rental, storage, or other use of qualifying broadband equipment by Internet providers or subsidiaries if the property is directly used for the purpose of establishing or expanding broadband services in underserved or unserved areas. Requires the Department of Commerce and the Rural Broadband Expansion Council to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature by April 1, 2025 regarding the use of the rebate program during calendar years 2022 and 2023. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.24.21)

(New) HB2960 – Reduces the corporate income tax from 6 percent to 4 percent for all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021. Taken alongside HB2961, which provides an equal tax cut for banks, the measure is estimated to decrease income tax collections by \$53.9 million and \$110.2 million in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 respectively. Income tax collections are a primary revenue source for the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund. Effective January 1, 2022. (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

(New) <u>HB2961</u> – Reduces the bank privilege tax from 6 percent to 4 percent for all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021. Taken alongside HB2960, which provides an equal tax cut for corporations, the measure is estimated to decrease income tax collections by \$53.9 million and \$110.2 million in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 respectively. Income tax collections are a primary revenue source for the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund. Effective January 1, 2022. (Signed by Governor 5.24.21)

(New) HB2962 – Reduces the individual income tax by 0.25 percent for all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022. Additionally, the measure restores refundability of the earned income tax credit (EITC) and provides that it be computed using the same requirements as the earned income tax credit for federal income tax purposes in effect for the 2020 income tax year, other than the 5 percent amount already provided, which will remain constant. Estimated to decrease income tax collections by \$83,055,000 and \$236,733,000 in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 respectively. Income tax collections are a primary revenue source for the Education Reform Revolving (1017) Fund. Effective January 1, 2022. (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

SB229 – Creates the Redbud School Funding Act, directing roughly \$38.5 million medical marijuana excise tax revenues to be deposited in the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund to be distributed to Eligible Charter Schools and school districts in fiscal year 2022. Beginning fiscal year 2023 and for all subsequent years, directs a maximum of 3/4s of medical marijuana sales tax revenue received in the preceding fiscal year to be deposited in the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund to be distributed to Eligible Charter Schools and school districts. Eligible charter schools include those not sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board and that provide in-person or blended instruction to at least 2/3s of enrolled students as the primary means of instructional service delivery. The bill defines "blended instruction" as a combination of brick-and-mortar and virtual learning environments that require participating students to engage in at least one unit or set of competencies at a physical school building, which is the equivalent of one hour per day for each instructional day in the school year.

The amount to be distributed is calculated by dividing the amount of building funds plus 25% of the total amount of county four-mill levy funds received by districts in the prior year by the Average Daily Membership (ADM) in each district. Allocations will be made to bring each

district below the state average per ADM up to that amount. Should medical marijuana tax revenue be insufficient to cover the full amount needed, an additional apportionment will be made from the medical marijuana sales tax. The bill allows the Department of Education to retain 1/2 of 1% to administer the Fund. Directs any money apportioned to the Fund to be included in the determination of whether or not the funding requirement has been met in order to enforce class size requirements in kindergarten and first grade. The bill also clarifies that charter schools are only eligible to receive State Aid, federal funds and any other state-appropriated revenue, grants or other aid for which they are eligible; directs charter ADA to be calculated separately from the ADA of sponsoring districts for the purpose funding; and requires charter schools to receive all state appropriated and federal funding directly. Effective upon its passage and approval. (Sent to Governor)

(New) <u>SB1037</u> – Allows school district building funds to consist of federal monies allocated by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act of 2021 (CRRSA) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

(New) <u>SB1067</u> – Sets budget limits and uses on FY2022 funds directed to the State Board of Education by HB2900. Notable increases include an increase of \$1 million for the Reading Sufficiency Act (RSA) for a total of \$12 million, and an increase of \$2 million for Alternative Education for a total of \$12 million. <u>Effective 90 days after Sine Die.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.24.21)

(New) SB1080 – Enacts significant reforms to the Oklahoma Equal Opportunity Education Scholarship by modifying the total tax credit cap, manner of allocation, eligibility, and by providing additional oversight. Namely, the bill increases the total annual tax credit cap from \$5 to \$50 million, expanding the program to include public school districts/foundations, and divides the total cap evenly between public and private schools/organizations (\$25 million each). The measure allows suspended credits to be used in the next tax year. Scholarship and educational improvement granting organizations, as well as public school foundations and public-school districts must submit financial audits to the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC), the Legislature, and the Governor, and make documents publicly available online. Provides that contributions made to an organization to benefit a school district with fewer than 2,000 students as of October 1, will be tax credited at 75 percent. State Department of Education enrollment data will be used for the purposes of claiming such credits. Additionally, taxpayers making contributions to eligible public school districts/foundations will receive an increased credit percentage for donating in consecutive years if the taxpayer provides evidence of the written commitment to OTC when filing the refund claim. Requires any eligible public-school district receiving contributions to annually account for all revenue and expenditures through the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System (OCAS) and publish the total amount raised on its website. Lastly, the bill places a \$200,000 cap on annual contributions to an individual public school district. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.21.21)

Professional Development

<u>HB1593</u> – Revises the frequency for certain professional development requirements including training on the importance of digital teaching and learning standards, recognizing and addressing the mental health needs of students, emphasizing the importance of incorporating workplace safety training into curriculum, and in-service training on alcohol and drug abuse. Each training

program must be completed during a teacher's first year of employment at a district and be retaken at specified intervals. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

School Boards

<u>HB1046</u> – Requires each school district to post a copy or hyperlink of the most recent financial audit on the front page of its website. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

<u>HB1801</u> – Expands the requirements for "Riley's Rule", requiring local school boards to coordinate with local emergency medical service providers in developing an Emergency Action Plan for each athletic practice, event or activity held at school district facilities. The plan must include contact, directory and map information for emergency medical services, a designated medical administrator, be provided to all school athletics and events staff, specify evaluation and debriefing procedures following an emergency, and be updated and rehearsed annually. Lastly, the plan must be provided to visiting athletic teams or otherwise made available on the school district website. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.11.21)

<u>HB1963</u> – Requires the Governor to make a temporary appointment for a local school board should the board ever have insufficient membership to attain a quorum and conduct business. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

<u>HB2644</u> – Amends the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act by extending many of the flexibilities for public bodies to hold meetings by teleconference or videoconference until March 31, 2024, beyond the Feb. 15, 2022 date or expiration of the Governor's COVID-19 state of emergency as instituted by SB1031. The extended exemption deadline also applies to the requirement to have a physical meeting noticed posted in the body's principal office. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u>

(New) <u>HB2862</u> – Raises the thresholds for competitive bidding requirements. For public construction contracts, the amount is raised from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The limit that may be negotiated with a qualified contractor is raised from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The limit on contracts under an emergency authority declared by the governing body of a public agency is raised from \$75,000 to \$150,000. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

SB2 – Creates the Save Women's Sports Act, prohibiting all schools, universities, and athletic associations in the state from allowing students of the male sex to compete on teams designated for "women" or "girls". Schools are required to expressly designate sponsored athletic teams as male/boys, females/girls, or coed/mixed, as determined by biological sex of the athletes. Requires a student's parent or guardian, or the student themselves if they are age 18 or older, to sign an affidavit each school year acknowledging the student's biological sex at birth prior to participating in school athletics and notify the school of a change to the student's biological sex within thirty (30) days. Provides that a student deprived of an athletic opportunity or who suffers any direct or indirect harm as a result of a violation of this prohibition will have grounds for legal action against the offending school. A student will also have grounds to pursue legal action against a school or athletic association for any retaliation resulting from the student reporting a violation of the prohibition. The State Board of Education, State Regents for Higher Education and any school athletic association are prohibited from taking any adverse action against schools

maintaining sex-designated athletic teams, with any such impacted school having grounds for legal action against the offending governing body. Effective July 1, 2021.

SB22 – Requires a local school board electing to dispose of real or personal property under lease to provide the right of first refusal to purchase the property to the current lessee. If the board receives an offer for the property, it must provide notice to the current lessee, allowing thirty days after receipt of the notice to inform the board whether the lessee will purchase the property on the same terms and conditions in the notice, provided any non-cash consideration may be paid in cash at fair market value. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

<u>SB403</u> – Makes it unlawful for any person(s) to interfere with or disrupt the business or public meetings of a political subdivision. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.21.21)

SB658 – Requires the State Department of Education to provide and ensure every school district details the state's vaccination requirements for enrollment, including the possibility for exemption, on the district's website and any vaccine-related publication or notice. Prohibits local school boards, public and private universities, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the State Board of Education or the State Board of Career and Technology Education, from requiring a COVID-19 vaccination for admittance or attendance, requiring a vaccine passport, and from implementing a mask mandate for unvaccinated students. The measure prohibits local school boards from imposing mask mandates when the local jurisdiction is not under a state of emergency declared by the Governor and without detailing the specific purposes for the mandate after consulting with the local county health department. Any such mandate must be reconsidered at each regularly scheduled board meeting. Effective July 1, 2021.

SB783 – Enacts significant reforms to Oklahoma's school transfer statutes, namely, revising the guidelines for accepting and denying student transfers, limiting students to a maximum of two out-of-district transfers per school year, requiring school districts to list enrollment capacities on their websites and to report transfer approvals and denials to the State Department of Education, which must in turn post the information on its website and share it with OEQA. The bill creates a two-level appeal process for transfer denials, beginning with local school boards and ending with the State Board of Education. Lastly, the state's emergency transfer law is repealed. The bill's provisions are contingent on the enactment of H.B. 2078. The revised transfer provisions and requirements will take effect beginning on January 1, 2022. Now in effect. (Signed by Governor 3.31.21)

(New) <u>SB738</u> – Provides that entities organized to insure an Oklahoma educational institution will be considered insurers for all kinds of insurance provided. Requires the Insurance Commissioner to notify and demand corrective action of educational institution insurers the Commissioner reasonably believes to be insolvent or engaged in hazardous business practices jeopardizing the public or policy holders. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.5.21)

School Sites

<u>HB1124</u> – Creates the State Broadband Deployment Grant Program, directing the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, with the participation and advice of the Rural Broadband Expansion

Council, to issue competitive grants to promote expansions of broadband internet services in the state. Creates a revolving fund within the treasury to support the program. <u>Effective November 1</u>, <u>2021</u>. (Signed by Governor 5.20.21)

(New) <u>HB2646</u> – Makes comprehensive changes to the state's medical marijuana statutes, including the areas of licensing, growing, and packaging. Additionally, the measure clarifies how the minimum distance of 1,000 feet between a dispensary or disposal location and a school is to be measured and that school property not used for instruction will not constitute a school for the purposes of required distancing. Lastly, includes middle schools alongside elementary and high schools in the 1,000-foot distancing requirement. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Sent to Governor)

SB128 – Creates the Seizure-Safe Schools Act, requiring each school site with a student who is known to have a seizure disorder, to have at least one employee who has training to administer or assist with self-administration of seizure medication and recognize symptoms of seizures and take steps to respond by Jan. 1, 2022. The State Board of Education may develop rules to assist in the development and implementation of the program. Lastly, school employees who take actions in compliance with the act are exempt from disciplinary proceedings and will have immunity from civil liability. Effective upon its passage and approval. (Signed by Governor 4.26.21)

<u>SB54</u> – Requires the State Department of Education to designate a school district or individual campus as a Purple Star Campus if the school or district applies for the designation and agrees to provide certain services benefiting military-connected students and their families, in addition to offering related professional development for staff. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Sent to Governor)

<u>SB68</u> – Allows the children of active duty military personnel to pre-enroll in a local school district prior to moving to Oklahoma and be considered in compliance with school residency requirements prior to arrival. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

<u>SB69</u> – Allows the children of active duty military personnel to pre-enroll in statewide virtual charter schools prior to moving to Oklahoma and be considered in compliance with school residency requirements prior to arrival. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.20.21)

State Board/Dept. of Education

<u>HB1018</u> – Repeals the required publication and distribution of the biennial school laws book by the State Department of Education. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

(New) <u>HB1236</u> – Updates the Attorney General's official duties to include monitoring and evaluating federal actions including executive orders, agency rules or regulations, or acts of Congress, to determine if an action violates the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Creates the State Reserved Powers Protection Unit within the Office of the Attorney General to assist in the performance of these duties. Upon determining that an action violates the Tenth Amendment, the Attorney General must determine whether the state should seek an exemption from the application of the action, or seek to have the action declared unconstitutional. Additionally, authorizes the Legislature to review any action by the federal government to

determine its constitutionality. Upon the Legislature's recommendation, the State Reserved Powers Protection Unit will conduct a further review to determine whether an exemption or a ruling on constitutionality is warranted. The Legislature may override the Attorney General if he/she does not wish to pursue action as recommended. Lastly, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, all political subdivisions and other publicly funded organizations are prohibited from adopting or enforcing any federal action declared unconstitutional by the courts regarding issues such as pandemics or other health emergencies, the regulation of education, and other powers reserved by the State. Effective July 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.25.21)

HB2223 – Requires the State Department of Education to maintain the dyslexia handbook created by the Dyslexia and Education Taskforce by making revisions and additions as recommended by stakeholders every three years. The Department must consult with each member of the original task force, if available, during the revision process. Any revisions must include, but are not limited to, specified criteria for assisting school districts in screening for dyslexia and educating students who have dyslexia. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

<u>HB2462</u> – Reauthorizes the State Department of Education to enter into contracts and agreements for expenses necessary to host, or participate in, conferences or training sessions. Enables the Department to create accounts for the collection and distribution of funds from sponsors or registration fees related to conferences and training sessions. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.23.21)

<u>HB2932</u> – Prohibits any agency or other entity organized within the executive branch from using federal funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in a way that will, or will be likely to increase the demand for state-appropriated funds without the express authorization of the state Legislature, beginning in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and every following fiscal year. These requirements also apply to any federal funds allocated by an act of Congress or federal agency rules authorized by the federal government on or after December 1, 2020. <u>Effective upon its passage and approval.</u> (Became law due to Governor's inaction 5.3.21)

(New) <u>HJR1046</u> – The omnibus joint resolution on administrative rules for the 2021 Legislative Session. Approves all agency rules with some exceptions, including disapproval of the Department of Education's Oklahoma Academic Standards for Information Literacy, which incorporated the American Academy of School Librarians (AASL) Standards Framework for Learners (2017).

<u>SB585</u> – Expands the definition of willful or habitual neglect of duty, for which a state officer may be removed from office to include knowingly giving false testimony to a legislative committee, knowingly engaging in operations beyond the constitutional or statutory authority delegated to the officer's agency, or repeatedly refusing to provide information to a legislative committee or legislator in a timely manner. For the purposes of the bill, "timely manner" means no more than fifteen (15) business days from the date the request for information was received, unless extended by written agreement. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.27.21)

SB913 – Enacts comprehensive reforms to the Administrative Procedures Act, namely, by changing the mechanisms for the approval, disapproval, and repeal of administrative rules, and creating the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Requires agencies to submit all rule proposals to the Committee for approval prior to the rules being eligible for final approval by the Legislature, which is no longer required to approve all rules in a single Joint Resolution. Additionally, agencies must submit proposed changes to the Governor and the appropriate cabinet secretary as part of providing official notice and may not proceed with any rule change upon express written disapproval by the Governor or secretary within 30 days of the notice. Lastly, a procedure for expedited repeal of rules is created, allowing agencies to submit a request for repeal to the President Pro Tempore and Speaker of the House, who may refer the request to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules for consideration. Effective September 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 4.12.21)

Trauma-Informed/Mental Health

<u>HB1103</u> – Requires public schools to administer the Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA) survey every two years beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, for the purpose of improving student mental health and substance abuse outcomes. Requires the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) to assist in administering the survey, maintain all collected data, and develop a waiver process allowing schools to administer an alternate assessment to meet the requirement. Lastly, the Assessment will only be administered as federal funding is available. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.4.21)

HB1568 – Creates Maria's Law, requiring the State Board of Education to mandate that all schools provide instruction in mental health, emphasizing the interrelation between physical and mental well-being, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Requires the Board, in consultation ODMHSAS, to revise the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health and Physical Education and develop age-appropriate resources for students in grades K-12, which will be made available on the Department of Education website. Additionally, local school districts may enter into agreements with nonprofits and other community partners to provide this education to students. Directs the Board to develop rules to implement the provisions. Effective November 1, 2021. (Signed by Governor 5.5.21)

<u>HB1773</u> – Requires teacher candidates in early childhood, elementary, secondary, and special education, as part of their competency-based teacher preparation program, to study the background and implementation of multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) designed to address the core academic and nonacademic needs of all students. Candidates will receive grade-appropriate training on applying MTSS in the areas of structured literacy, mathematics, classroom management, and trauma-informed instruction at a minimum. <u>Effective November 1</u>, <u>2021</u>. (Signed by Governor 4.23.21)

(New) <u>HB2318</u> – Modifies rules on the termination of parental rights to include any findings of heinous or shocking child abuse or neglect or failing to protect any child from heinous or shocking abuse or neglect as legal grounds for the termination of parental rights. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 5.11.21)

(New) <u>HB2515</u> – Clarifies that the crime of child abuse and neglect may apply to any person responsible for the health of the child, not only the child's parents. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.28.21)

<u>SB21</u> – Requires, rather than permits, local boards of education to adopt a policy regarding district-wide suicide awareness training for staff and reporting student drug abuse, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. Districts may provide suicide awareness training to students grade 7-12 beginning in the 2022-2023 school year. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u> (Signed by Governor 4.22.21)

Failed Deadline/Vote

<u>HB1002</u> – Eliminates the statute of limitations for civil action against individuals accused of childhood sexual abuse, while lengthening the same statute of limitations for corporate entities and organizations to 30 years. The measure allows a five-year window for the filing of retroactive claims for childhood sexual abuse for those persons who were previously barred from filing due to the time limitation. The revival of a claim does not apply to any claim that has been litigated to finality; or to any written settlement agreement which has been entered into between the plaintiff and defendant. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u>

<u>HB1027</u> – Requires the State Board of Education and Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), in consultation with school superintendents, to develop and offer training for school employees on violence de-escalation, in addition to existing training addressing student mental health. The training will include information concerning trauma-informed teaching, self-regulation practices for students and staff, and trauma-informed response protocols for addressing behavior with a positive and compassionate approach. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u>

<u>HB1090</u> – Permits the State Auditor and Inspector and the Auditor's Performance Audit Division, to examine books and accounts of public officers and other governmental entities independent of a request by the Governor, a government entity's CEO, or a concurrent resolution of the Legislature. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u>

<u>HB2083</u> – Creates a five-year schedule to progressively reduce to zero Oklahoma taxable income for the calculation of corporate income tax for certain local and foreign corporations by 20 percent each year, beginning in January 2022. Outlines the Legislature's intent to make modifications to offset potential revenue losses and to ensure that revenues to the Education Reform Revolving (HB 1017) Fund, the Teachers' Retirement System, and the Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund are not adversely affected. Estimated to decrease income tax collections by \$32.3 million and \$99.9 million in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 respectively. Effective January 1, 2022.

<u>HB2335</u> – Prohibits any state agency from enacting a vaccine requirement for any member of the general public or from imposing civil, criminal, or administrative penalties on those declining to vaccinate themselves for their children. Certain existing vaccine requirements, such as those for enrollment in public schools, are exempted from the prohibition. For the purposes of the bill, state agency is defined to mean "any office, department, board, commission or institution of the executive branch of state government", specifically excluding municipal governments, hospitals,

and health care facilities. Lastly, state agencies and individual employees are granted immunity from damages incurred by a person diagnosed with a communicable disease after refusing to be vaccinated or from side effects of vaccination. Effective upon its passage and approval.

<u>HB2381</u> – Requires school districts to conduct an annual fitness assessment for students in grades 3-12, as approved by the State Board of Education beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Requires the State Board to adopt standards deemed appropriate to measure a student's physical fitness and requires the Department of Education to adopt an assessment instrument that measures student aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. Districts must provide overall results of the assessment to the Board and the results for individual students to the parent or guardian. Requires the Departments of Education and Health to analyze these performance results and look for correlations with other specified outcomes on a district basis and submit a report to the Governor. <u>Effective 90 days after Sine Die</u>.

HB2388 – Allows school districts to provide age-appropriate instruction on social-emotional learning, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. "Social emotional learning" is defined as the process through which children and adults manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy, maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. The State Department of Education may create or offer accurate instructional materials on social-emotional learning on the Department's website, with districts retaining the right to create or implement their own instructional materials. Effective November 1, 2021.

<u>HB2399</u> – Allows students in 11th or 12th grade whose parents became deceased after their 10th grade year and whose adoptive parents have a federal adjusted gross income of less than \$60,000 per year, to be eligible for the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP), also known as Oklahoma's Promise. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u>

<u>HB2588</u> – Allows local school boards to authorize school staff possessing a handgun license and having demonstrated proficiency in handgun and campus-specific active shooter training to carry a handgun on school property. To be eligible, an employee must successfully complete four hours of weapon retention training certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) and four hours of campus-specific active shooter training as determined by the appropriate local law enforcement agency. The above training is to be conducted biannually. Effective July 1, 2021.

HB2727 – Allows "Adulting 101" to be taught as an elective class in public schools subject to the availability of funding. Instruction may include information on various topics including cooking, automobile maintenance, applying and interviewing for jobs, basic financial skills, career pathways, and stress management and may be taught in grades 6-12. Schools may incorporate the curriculum into existing courses and partner with nonprofits, the career and technology system, or other programs approved by the State Department of Education. Lastly, the Department may develop rules to oversee these provisions. Effective November 1, 2021.

<u>HB2755</u> – Requires a sponsoring school district to provide any sponsored charter school(s) the opportunity to submit capital projects for inclusion in any bond proposal submitted by the district and ensure the value of the projects is proportional to the charter's enrollment. Any property purchased for the charter's capital projects will be owned by the issuing school district, unless

the charter operates within the physical boundaries of the sponsor. Upon ceasing operations, the charter's bond-purchased property will default to the sponsoring school district. <u>Effective</u> November 1, 2021.

- <u>SB51</u> Removes the requirement for alternatively and traditionally certified teachers to pass the general education portions of competency examinations to become certified. <u>Effective July 1</u>, 2021.
- SB222 Amends the definition of "bullying" to include behavior that is unwanted, aggressive, involves a power imbalance and is repeated. Requires local school boards to update existing discipline and bullying policies annually and specifies that policies contain a broader reporting structure for incidents of bullying, protections for anyone reporting bullying in good faith, required notification of parents of an identified bullying victim within twenty-four hours of an initial report, or immediately in instances where suicidal ideation is suspected. The policy must be developed with input from stakeholders and community members and the district must provide a report to the school board on bullying prevention activities and reported incidents each semester. Effective July 1, 2021.
- <u>SB238</u> Creates a taskforce until December 31, 2021 to explore a requirement for high school students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to graduation. The nine-member taskforce will be composed of education stakeholders and include the State Superintendent of Public Instruction or a designee. Effective July 1, 2021.
- SB239 Requires the Department of Education to determine if it has the financial and personnel resources to support a new charter school before the State Board approves a charter school sponsorship upon appeal. Requires the Board to allow the applicant and denying school district sponsor to appear with an attorney at any hearing before the Board. If the Board determines that the applicant complied with all of the applicable requirements for approval by the local board, that there is demonstrable local community support, and the local board should have accepted the proposal, the Board may choose to sponsor the charter school. Establishes a formal timeline for appeals to the Board, requiring the applicant to file an appeal within 30 days of denial and the Board to hold a hearing for final determination within 60 days of receiving the appeal. Effective July 1, 2021.
- <u>SB419</u> Allows a teacher to use a student's highest score on the statewide U.S. history assessment in calculating the final grade of an applicable social studies, history or citizenship skills unit taken in the same year the assessment is administered, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. <u>Effective July 1, 2021.</u>
- SB503 Requires the Oklahoma subject matter standards for history, social studies and U.S. government to include the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution including the Bill of Rights, substantive selections from the Federalist Papers, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Articles of Confederation, the Gettysburg Address, and George Washington's Farewell Address. The statewide U.S. history assessment must include multiple questions containing fundamental principles of these historical documents. Effective July 1, 2021.

<u>SB784</u> – Permits the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) develop a statewide law enforcement and public safety youth program designed for high school students. Effective November 1, 2021.

<u>SB895</u> – Authorizes the director of a state agency to choose a public or certified public accountant, selected according to existing procedures, to conduct regular audits in lieu of the State Auditor and Inspector. The agency director may ask the State Auditor for a cost estimate of the audit to help in the selection process and must notify the State Auditor of the decision to use the alternative audit procedure. Any alternative audit report must be submitted to OMES by October 15 for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. <u>Effective November 1, 2021.</u>

<u>SB970</u> – Exempts any portion of any document or information provided to a state agency or entity for use in providing a license or certificate to an individual from being considered a "record" under the Oklahoma Open Records Act. Allows a public body to release personnel records at the body's sole discretion, provided, identifying information relating to the occupants of any residential structure and email addresses are redacted in addition to existing protections. Effective November 1, 2021.

SB1032 – Makes permanent additions to the Open Meetings Act requiring all public bodies that maintain a website and utilize a high-speed internet connection, to stream all meetings on the website and post meeting recordings after concluding, if such actions are practicable. Also authorizes any public body headquartered in a county subject to a declared state of emergency to meet via teleconference or videoconference, with all related requirements and exemptions applicable to public bodies statewide under the COVID-19 emergency. Effective upon its passage and approval.