STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

HOUSE BILL 1161 By: Rogers

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AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Sections 6-101.3, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 360, O.S.L. 2016, 6-101.10, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 and 6-101.13, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Sections 6-101.3, 6-101.10 and 6-101.13), which relate to evaluations of teachers and administrators; modifying certain definitions; deleting and modifying requirements for evaluation and professional development policies; requiring policies to include certain components; listing criteria for evaluation component; listing criteria for professional development component; requiring school districts to monitor compliance; making professional development count towards total required number of professional development points; stating construction; providing examples of professional development learning practices; providing for additional components and procedures; describing a student learning component or quantitative measure; describing a teacher and administrator professionalism component; authorizing boards of education to include certain rating system; directing school districts to define rating levels; encouraging school districts to seek certain input; modifying and adding certain requirements for policies of evaluation and corresponding professional development; deleting references to state guidelines, materials and criteria; providing manner of monitoring compliance; deleting certain Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) study requirement; deleting authority to dismiss principals based on district evaluation ratings; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-101.22, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp.

2016, Section 6-101.22), which relates to the Teachers Due Process Act of 1990; deleting requirements for dismissal or nonreemployment of teachers; providing for the dismissal of teachers for engaging in certain acts; defining terms; repealing 70 O.S. 2011, Sections 6-101.16, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 and 6-101.17 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-101.16), which relate to the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System and the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Commission; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

- 10 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-101.3, as
- 11 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 360, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp.
- 12 | 2016, Section 6-101.3), is amended to read as follows:
- Section 6-101.3 As used in Section 6-101 et seq. of this title:
- 1. "Administrator" means a duly certified person who devotes a

 15 majority of time to service as a superintendent, elementary

 16 superintendent, principal, supervisor, vice principal or in any

 17 other administrative or supervisory capacity in the school district;
 - 2. "Dismissal" means the discontinuance of the teaching service of an administrator or teacher during the term of a written contract, as provided by law;
 - 3. "Nonreemployment" means the nonrenewal of the contract of an administrator or teacher upon expiration of the contract;
 - 4. "Career teacher" means a teacher who:

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2018 school year and has completed three (3) or more consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract, or

- b. is employed for the first time by a school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract during the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter:
 - (1) has completed three (3) consecutive complete
 school years as a teacher in one school district
 under a written continuing or temporary teaching
 contract and has achieved a district evaluation
 rating of "superior" as measured pursuant to the
 TLE as set forth in Section 6-101.16 of this
 title for at least two (2) of the three (3)
 school years,
 - (2) has completed four (4) consecutive complete
 school years as a teacher in one school district
 under a written continuing or temporary teaching
 contract, has averaged a district evaluation
 rating of at least "effective" as measured
 pursuant to the TLE for the four-year period, and
 has received district evaluation ratings of at

least "effective" for the last two (2) years of
the four-year period, or

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(3) has completed four (4) or more consecutive complete school years in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract and has not met the requirements of subparagraph a or b of this paragraph, only if the principal of the school at which the teacher is employed submits a petition to the superintendent of the school district requesting that the teacher be granted career status, the superintendent agrees with the petition, and the school district board of education approves the petition. The principal shall specify in the petition the underlying facts supporting the granting of career status to the teacher;

5. "Teacher hearing" means the hearing before a school district board of education after a recommendation for dismissal or nonreemployment of a teacher has been made but before any final action is taken on the recommendation, held for the purpose of affording the teacher all rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Oklahoma under circumstances and for enabling the board to determine whether to approve or disapprove the recommendation;

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6. "Probationary teacher" means a teacher who:

is employed by a school district prior to the 2017-2018 school year and has completed fewer than three (3) consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one school district under a written teaching contract,

- b. is employed for the first time by a school district

 under a written teaching contract during the 2017-2018

 school year and thereafter and has not met the

 requirements for career teacher as provided in

 paragraph 4 of this section;
- 7. "Suspension" or "suspended" means the temporary discontinuance of the services of an administrator or teacher, as provided by law; and
- 8. "Teacher" means a <u>duly certified</u> person <u>defined as a teacher</u> in Section 1-116 of this title who is employed to serve as a <u>counselor</u>, librarian or school nurse or in any instructional <u>capacity</u>; an administrator shall be considered a teacher only with <u>regard to service in an instructional</u>, nonadministrative capacity; and
- 9. "District evaluation rating" means the rating issued based on the components of the TLE as set forth in subsection B of Section 6-101.16 of this title.

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SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-101.10, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-101.10), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-101.10 A. Each school district board of education shall maintain and annually review, following consultation with or involvement of representatives selected by local teachers, a written policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development for all teachers and administrators. In those school districts in which there exists a professional negotiations agreement made in accordance with Section 509.1 et seq. of this title, the procedure for evaluating members of the negotiations unit and any standards of performance and conduct proposed for adoption beyond those established by the State Board of Education shall be negotiable items. Nothing in this section shall be construed to annul, modify or to preclude the renewal or continuing of any existing agreement heretofore entered into between any school district and any organizational representative of its employees.

B. Every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development adopted by a board of education of a school district shall:

1. Be based upon a set of minimum criteria developed by the State Board of Education, which shall be revised and based upon the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) developed by the State Board of Education as provided in Section 6-

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101.16 of this title. The revisions to each policy of evaluation shall be phased in according to the following schedule:

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for the 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years, the evaluation rating of teachers and administrators shall be based on the qualitative component of the TLE. For the 2016-2017 school year, the State Department of Education shall work with school districts to develop individualized programs of professional development as described in subsection B of this section. However, nothing in this subparagraph shall preclude a school district with an average daily attendance of more than thirty-five thousand (35,000) from continuing to use quantitative components which the district has incorporated at its own expense prior to the 2015-2016 school year into its evaluation system of teachers and administrators, as defined by the district's written policy, for evaluations of teachers and administrators conducted during the 2017-2018 school year, and each school year thereafter, school districts shall incorporate and put into operation the qualitative component of the TLE as provided for in subsection B of Section 6-101.16 of this title into the evaluations

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used in all school sites within the district. For the

| 1 | | 2017-2018 school year, and each school year | |
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| 2 | | thereafter, teachers and administrators shall receive | |
| 3 | | a district evaluation rating based on the components | |
| 4 | | of the TLE as set forth in subsection B of Section 6- | |
| 5 | | 101.16 of this title. For the 2017-2018 school year, | |
| 6 | | school districts shall incorporate the individualized | |
| 7 | | programs of professional development as described in | |
| 8 | | subsection B of this section on a pilot program basis, | |
| 9 | | and | |
| 10 | C. | for evaluations of teachers and administrators | |
| 11 | | conducted during the 2018-2019 school year, and each | |
| 12 | | school year thereafter, school districts shall fully | |
| 13 | | incorporate and put into operation the individualized | |
| 14 | | programs of professional development as described in | |
| 15 | | subsection B of this section; | |
| 16 | 2. | | |
| 17 | be a reflecti | ve practice model of teacher and administrator | |
| 18 | professionalism which includes an evaluation component and a | | |

professionalism which includes an evaluation component and a professional development component.

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- C. The evaluation component of every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development adopted by a school district board of education shall:
- 1. Incorporate a qualitative assessment tool or tools. The qualitative assessment tool or tools may be any methods developed or

| 1 | adopted by the school district board of education for purposes of |
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| 2 | the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness System which are |
| 3 | valid, reliable, research-based and supported by a body of evidence; |
| 4 | and |

- 2. Provide for the development of a focused and individualized professional development plan for the teacher or administrator that is consistent with the qualitative assessment tool or tools criteria.
- D. The professional development component of every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development adopted by a school district board of education shall:
- 1. Establish an annual professional growth goal for the teacher or administrator that is developed by the teacher or administrator in collaboration with the evaluator;
- 2. Be tailored to address a specific area or criteria identified through the qualitative assessment tool or tools criteria;
- 3. Allow the teacher or administrator to actively engage with learning practices that are evidence-based researched practices that are correlated with increased student achievement; and
- 4. Be supported by resources that are easily available and supplied by the school district and the State Department of Education.
 - E. School districts shall monitor compliance with each

- 1 professional development plan as described in subsection D of this 2 section. All professional development completed pursuant to a 3 professional development plan shall count toward the total number of 4 points a teacher or administrator is required to complete as 5 established by the board of education of the school district 6 pursuant to Section 6-194 of this title. The implementation of the 7 professional development plan requirements pursuant to this section 8 shall not be construed as increasing the professional development
 - F. Professional development plans as described in subsection D of this section may include, but are not limited to, the following learning practices:
- 1. Presenter-led workshops;

points requirement.

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- 2. Individual or faculty studies of books, scholarly articles
 and video productions;
 - Peer observations;
 - 4. Committee studies to address student achievement issues;
- 5. Work related to a specific subject area or areas that is
 associated with obtaining an advanced degree or professional
 certification;
- 21 <u>6. Action research projects designed to improve student</u>
 22 achievement; and
- 23 7. Participation in local, regional or state initiatives
 24 associated with the development or implementation of curriculum

standards.

G. In addition to the evaluation and professional development components that are required to be included in every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development, a school district board of education may adopt additional components and procedures. A school district board of education may include:

- 1. Student learning components or quantitative assessment

 measures that are based on teacher or school district assessments

 developed or adopted by teachers or school districts that can be

 used to demonstrate student growth over one (1) academic year or

 multiple academic years as elected, approved and funded by the

 school district board of education; and
- 2. Teacher and administrator professionalism based on observable and measurable characteristics of professionalism including, but not limited to, interpersonal skills, parental involvement, continuous improvement and professional growth, classroom or school organization and management skills and leadership skills.
- H. 1. Every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development adopted by a school district board of education may include a five-tier rating system as follows:
 - a. superior,
 - b. highly effective,
 - c. effective,

1 <u>d.</u> <u>needs improvement, and</u>
2 e. ineffective.

- 2. School districts shall define each rating level for consistent and shared definitions.
- 3. School districts are encouraged to seek input from teachers and administrators in establishing the parameters of each rating level.
- I. Every policy of evaluation and corresponding professional development adopted by a school district board of education shall:
- 1. Be prescribed in writing at the time of adoption and at all times when amendments to the policy are adopted. The original policy and all amendments to the policy shall be promptly made available to all persons subject to the policy;
- 3. 2. Provide that all evaluations be made in writing and that evaluation documents and responses thereto be maintained in a personnel file for each evaluated person;
- 4. 3. Provide that every probationary teacher receive formative feedback from the evaluation process at least two times per school year, once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester;
- 5. 4. Provide that every <u>career</u> teacher be evaluated once every year, except for career teachers receiving a district evaluation

 rating of "superior" or "highly effective" under the TLE who may be evaluated once every three (3) years at the discretion of the school

district; provided, that every career teacher shall participate in an annual or biannual professional growth plan review;

- 5. Provide that every teacher who receives a rating below the acceptable level of performance as established by the board of education be provided a comprehensive remediation plan and instructional coaching; and
- 6. Provide that, except for superintendents of independent and elementary school districts and superintendents of area school districts who shall be evaluated by the school district board of education, all certified personnel shall be evaluated through formal or informal observations by a principal, assistant principal, designee of the principal, supervisor, content expert, department chair, peer committee or other trained persons person or groups group of persons designated by the school district board of education.
- B. 1. Every policy of professional development adopted by a school district board of education shall provide for the development of a focused and individualized program of professional development for the teacher or administrator that is consistent with the qualitative component of the TLE. The policy of professional development shall:
 - establish an annual professional growth goal for the teacher or administrator that is developed by the

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teacher or administrator in collaboration with the evaluator,

- b. be tailored to address a specific area or criteria identified through the qualitative component of the TLE.
- with learning practices that are evidence-based,

 researched practices that are correlated with

 increased student achievement, and
- d. be supported by resources that are easily available and supplied by the school district and the State

 Department of Education.
- 2. School districts shall monitor compliance with each individualized program of professional development implemented pursuant to this subsection. All professional development completed pursuant to an individualized program of professional development shall count toward the total number of points a teacher or administrator is required to complete as established by a school district board of education pursuant to Section 6-194 of this title. The implementation of the individualized program of professional development required by this subsection shall not be construed as increasing the professional development points requirements.

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1 3. Individualized programs of professional development required 2 by this subsection may include but are not limited to the following 3 learning practices: 4 presenter-led workshops, individual or faculty studies of books, scholarly 5 articles and video productions, 6 7 peer observations, c. committee studies to address student achievement 8 d. 9 issues, 10 work related to a specific subject area or areas e . 11 associated with obtaining an advanced degree or 12 professional certification, 1.3 £. action research projects designed to improve student 14 achievement, and 15 participation in local, regional or state initiatives g. 16 associated with the development or implementation of 17 curriculum standards. 18 C. J. All individuals designated by the school district board 19 of education to conduct the personnel evaluations shall be required 20 to participate in training conducted by the State Department of 21 Education or training provided by the school district using

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quidelines and materials developed by the State Department of

Education prior to conducting evaluations.

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D. K. The State Department of Education shall develop and conduct workshops pursuant to statewide criteria which train individuals in conducting evaluations pursuant to the provisions of this section.

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- E. L. The State Board of Education shall monitor compliance with the provisions of this section by through the annual accreditation of the school districts.
- F. The State Board of Education shall study continued implementation of the TLE to produce a system that promotes reflection and professional growth for teachers and leaders.
- G. M. Refusal by a school district to comply with the provisions of this section shall be grounds for withholding State Aid funds until compliance occurs.
- H. N. Data collected pursuant to this section shall not be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act or the Oklahoma Open Records Act.
- 17 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-101.13, as SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 18 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 19

2016, Section 6-101.13), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-101.13 A. Whenever the school district board of education or the administration of a school district shall determine that the dismissal or nonreemployment of a full-time certified administrator from the administrative position within the school

district should be effected, the administrator shall be entitled to the following due process procedures:

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- 1. A statement shall be submitted to the administrator in writing prior to the dismissal or nonreemployment which states the proposed action, lists the reasons for effecting the action, and notifies the administrator of his or her right to a hearing before the school district board of education prior to the action; and
- 2. A hearing before the school district board of education shall be granted upon the request of the administrator prior to the dismissal or nonreemployment. A request for a hearing shall be submitted to the board of education not later than ten (10) days after the administrator has been notified of the proposed action.
- B. Failure of the administrator to request a hearing before the school district board of education within ten (10) days after receiving the written statement shall constitute a waiver of the right to a hearing. No decision of the board of education concerning the dismissal or nonreemployment of a full-time certified administrator shall be effective until the administrator has been afforded due process as specified in this section. The decision of the school district board of education concerning the dismissal or nonreemployment, following the hearing, shall be final.
- C. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter, a principal who has received district evaluation ratings of "ineffective" as measured pursuant to the TLE as set forth in

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1 | Section 6-101.16 of this title for two (2) consecutive school years
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- 2 | may be dismissed or not reemployed by the school district, subject
- 3 to the due process procedures of this section.
- 4 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-101.22, as
- 5 | last amended by Section 5, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp.
- 6 2016, Section 6-101.22), is amended to read as follows:
- 7 Section 6-101.22 A. Subject to the provisions of the Teacher
- 8 | Due Process Act of 1990, a career teacher may be dismissed or not
- 9 reemployed for:
- 10 | 1. Willful neglect of duty;
- 11 2. Repeated negligence in performance of duty;
- 12 | 3. Mental or physical abuse to a child;
- 13 4. Incompetency;
 - 5. Instructional ineffectiveness;
 - 6. Unsatisfactory teaching performance;
- 16 7. Commission of an act of moral turpitude; or
- 17 | 8. Abandonment of contract.
- B. Subject to the provisions of the Teacher Due Process Act of
- 19 | 1990, a probationary teacher may be dismissed or not reemployed for
- 20 cause.

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- 21 C. During the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter:
- 22 1. A career teacher who has received a district evaluation
- 23 | rating of "ineffective" for two (2) consecutive school years shall
- 24 be dismissed or not reemployed on the grounds of instructional

ineffectiveness by the school district, subject to the provisions of the Teacher Due Process Act of 1990. However, the superintendent may recommend and the school district board of education may approve continued employment of the teacher; and

2. A career teacher who has received a district evaluation rating of "needs improvement" or lower for three (3) consecutive school years may be dismissed or not reemployed on the grounds of instructional ineffectiveness by the school district, subject to the provisions of the Teacher Due Process Act of 1990.

D. During the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter:

1. A probationary teacher who has received a district evaluation rating of "ineffective" as measured pursuant to the TLE for two (2) consecutive school years may be dismissed or not reemployed by the school district subject to the provisions of the Teacher Due Process Act of 1990; and

2. A probationary teacher who has not attained career teacher status within a four-year period may be dismissed or not reemployed by the school district, subject to the provisions of the Teacher Due Process Act of 1990.

E. D. A teacher shall be dismissed or not reemployed, unless a presidential or gubernatorial pardon has been issued, if during the term of employment the teacher is convicted in this state, the United States or another state of:

1. Any sex offense subject to the Sex Offenders Registration
Act in this state or subject to another state's or the federal sex
offender registration provisions; or

2. Any felony offense.

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- F. E. A teacher may be dismissed, refused employment or not reemployed after a finding that such person has engaged in acts that could form the basis of criminal charges sufficient to result in the denial or revocation of a certificate for a reason set forth in subparagraph a of paragraph 6 of Section 3-104 of this title sexual activity or sexual misconduct that has impeded the effectiveness of the individual's performance of school duties. As used in this subsection:
- 1. "Criminal sexual activity" means the commission of an act as defined in Section 886 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which is the act of sodomy; and
- 2. "Sexual misconduct" means the soliciting or imposing of criminal sexual activity.
- G. F. As used in this section, "abandonment of contract" means the failure of a teacher to report at the beginning of the contract term or otherwise perform the duties of a contract of employment when the teacher has accepted other employment or is performing work for another employer that prevents the teacher from fulfilling the obligations of the contract of employment.

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        H. G. A school district shall notify the State Board of
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    Education within ten (10) days of the dismissal or nonreemployment
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    of a probationary or career teacher for reasons outlined in
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    subsection F E of this section.
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                                    70 O.S. 2011, Sections 6-101.16, as
        SECTION 5.
                       REPEALER
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    last amended by Section 4, Chapter 301, O.S.L. 2016 and 6-101.17 (70
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    O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-101.16), are hereby repealed.
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        SECTION 6. This act shall become effective August 1, 2017.
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        SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
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    of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
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    declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
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    be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
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