

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1952

By: Jordan of the House

and

Paxton and Sharp of the
Senate

An Act relating to schools; defining certain term; prohibiting school districts from prohibiting or taking disciplinary action against teachers who take certain actions; providing definition; requiring school districts to post copy of certain law; providing certain construction; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Disciplinary action against teachers

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-101.6b of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. For purposes of this section, "teacher" means the term as defined in paragraph 1 of Section 1-116 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. No school district shall prohibit or take disciplinary action against teachers for:

1. Disclosing public information to correct what the teacher reasonably believes evidences a violation of the Oklahoma Constitution or law or a rule promulgated pursuant to law;

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

3. Taking any of the above actions without giving prior notice to the teacher's supervisor or anyone else in the teacher's chain of command.

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

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

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

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

Passed the House of Representatives the 10th day of May, 2017.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 26th day of April, 2017.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____