1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)
4	HOUSE BILL 2358 By: Boles of the House
5	and
6	<b>Pemberton</b> of the Senate
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9	AS INTRODUCED
LO	An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
L1	Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2, and 18-113.4, which relate to class size limitations and penalties;
L2	providing an exception for certain transfer students; excepting kindergarten class size penalty for certain transfer students; providing an exemption from certain class size penalties; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.
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L7	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
L 8	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 18-113.1, is
L 9	amended to read as follows:
20	Section 18-113.1 A. The provisions of this subsection shall
21	apply only to grades one through three.
22	1. Except as otherwise provided for in this section, no child
23	shall be included in the average daily membership of a school
24	district for the purpose of computing and paying state-appropriated

- 2. If a class or classes in a grade exceed the class size limitation provided for in this subsection, the class size limitation and penalty shall not apply if:
  - a. the creation of an additional class would cause a class to have fewer than ten (10) students  $+_L$  and
  - b. a teacher's assistant, as defined in Section 6-127 of this title, is employed to serve with each teacher in a class that exceeds the class size limitation provided for in this subsection, or
  - c. beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the class size limitation provided for in this subsection is exceeded because the school district received students transferred in accordance with Sections 8-101 and 8-113, subsection A of Section 8-101.2 for siblings and children in foster care, or subsection B of Section 8-103.1 of this title.
- 3. No school district shall be penalized for exceeding class size limitations set forth in this subsection if the limitations are exceeded beginning after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year.

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Any school district found to be in violation of the provisions of this subsection shall receive a penalty in the State Aid formula as a reduction to State Aid to be determined as follows:

- a. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size

  membership limit as provided in this subsection by the

  grade level weight and by the Base Foundation Support

  Level for the current school year, and
- b. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size membership limit as provided in this subsection by the grade level weight and by the Incentive Aid guarantee for the current school year times twenty (20), and
- c. Sum the products of subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph.
- B. The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to grades four through  $\sin x$ .
- 1. Except as otherwise provided for in this section, no child shall be included in the average daily membership of a school district for the purpose of computing and paying state-appropriated funds if that child is regularly assigned to a teacher or to a class that includes more than twenty (20) students.
- 2. If a class or classes in a grade exceed the class size limitation provided for in this subsection, the class size limitation and penalty shall not apply if the creation of an

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additional class would cause a class to have fewer than sixteen (16) students.

- 3. No school district shall be penalized for exceeding class size limitations set forth in this subsection if the limitations are exceeded beginning after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year.
- 4. Any school district found to be in violation of the provisions of this subsection shall receive a penalty in the State Aid formula as a reduction to State Aid to be determined as follows:
  - a. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size

    membership limit as provided in this subsection by the

    grade level weight and by the Base Foundation Support

    Level for the current school year, and
  - b. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size

    membership limit as provided in this subsection by the

    grade level weight and by the Incentive Aid guarantee

    for the current school year times twenty (20), and
  - c. Sum the products of subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph.
- C. Classes in the following subjects shall not be subject to the class size limitations provided for in subsections A and B of this section:
  - 1. Physical education; and
  - 2. Chorus, band, orchestra and similar music classes.

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- D. If a school district groups its grades as grades one through five, grades six through eight, and grades nine through twelve, then as to such district the provisions of subsection B of this section shall apply to grades four and five rather than grades four through six, and the provisions of Section 18-113.3 of this title shall apply to grades six through twelve.
  - E. Any violations of the provisions of this section shall result in denial of accreditation in accordance with the requirements of Section 3-104.4 of this title.
  - F. Any school district which at the beginning of the school year does not have sufficient classrooms to meet the class size limitation provided for in this section as determined by guidelines established by the State Board of Education shall not be penalized for failure to meet the class size limitations provided for in this section if:
    - a. the school district has voted indebtedness, at any time within the five (5) years preceding the year the district exceeds the class size limitations or during the year the district exceeds the class size limitations, through the issuance of bonds or approval by voters of issuance of new bonds for more than eighty-five percent (85%) of the maximum allowable pursuant to the provisions of Section 26 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution as shown on the school

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AMENDATORY

70 O.S. 2021, Section 18-113.2, is

amended to read as follows:

district budget filed with the State Equalization Board for the current school year and certifications by the Attorney General prior to February 1 of the current school year; and

- b. on the date of filing of the school district budget with the State Equalization Board, the school district is voting the maximum millage allowable for the support, maintenance and construction of schools as provided for in subsections (a), (c), (d) and (d-1) of Section 9 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution and Section 10 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution.
- G. Any school district which exceeds the class size limitations as set forth in this section shall submit a written report to the State Board of Education, on or before July 1 of each year, setting forth the procedures that the district will follow in order to comply with this section.

School districts which receive state-appropriated funds

pursuant to the provisions of Section 18-112.2 of this title and do not comply with the provisions of this section shall be subject to loss of State Aid for each child in excess of the class size limitations specified in this section. SECTION 2.

- 1. No child shall be included in the average daily membership of a school district for the purpose of computing and paying state-appropriated funds if that child is regularly assigned to a teacher or to a class that includes more than twenty (20) students.
- 2. If a class or classes in a grade exceed the class size limitation provided for in this subsection, the class size limitation and penalty shall not apply if:
  - a. the creation of an additional class would cause a class to have fewer than ten (10) students  $\div_{r}$  and
  - b. a teacher's assistant, as defined in Section 6-127 of this title, is employed to serve with each teacher in a class that exceeds the class size limitation provided for in this subsection, or
  - beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the class size limitation provided for in this subsection is exceeded because the school district received students transferred in accordance with Sections 8-101 and 8-113, subsection A of Section 8-101.2 for siblings and children in foster care, or subsection B of Section 8-103.1 of this title.
- 3. No school district shall be penalized for exceeding class size limitations set forth in this section if the limitations are

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exceeded beginning after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year.

- 4. Any school district which at the beginning of the school year does not have sufficient classrooms to meet the class size limitation provided for in this section as determined by guidelines established by the State Board of Education shall not be penalized for failure to meet the class size limitations provided for in this section if:
  - a. the school district has voted indebtedness, at any time within the five (5) years preceding the year the district exceeds the class size limitations or during the year the district exceeds the class size limitations, through the issuance of bonds or approval by voters of issuance of new bonds for more than eighty-five percent (85%) of the maximum allowable pursuant to the provisions of Section 26 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution as shown on the school district budget filed with the State Equalization Board for the current school year and certifications by the Attorney General prior to February 1 of the current school year; and
  - b. on the date of filing of the school district budget with the State Equalization Board, the school district is voting the maximum millage allowable for the

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support, maintenance and construction of schools as provided for in subsections (a), (c), (d) and (d-1) of Section 9 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution and Section 10 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution.

- 5. Any school district found to be in violation of the provisions of this subsection shall receive a penalty in the State Aid formula as a reduction to State Aid to be determined as follows:
  - a. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size

    membership limit as provided in this subsection by the

    grade level weight and by the Base Foundation Support

    Level for the current school year, and
  - b. Multiply each pupil in excess of the class size membership limit as provided in this subsection by the grade level weight and by the Incentive Aid guarantee for the current school year times twenty (20), and
  - c. Sum the products of subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph.
- B. Any violations of the provisions of this section shall result in denial of accreditation in accordance with the requirements of Section 3-104.4 of this title.
- C. School districts which receive state-appropriated funds pursuant to the provisions of Section 18-112.2 of this title and do not comply with the provisions of this section shall be subject to

loss of State Aid for each child in excess of the class size limitations specified in this section.

3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 18-113.4, is 4 amended to read as follows:

Section 18-113.4 A. Beginning with the 1997-98 school year, the penalties for exceeding class size limitations established in Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2 and 18-113.3 of this title shall not apply if the class size limitations, as set forth in said sections, are exceeded beginning after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. If the class size limitations are exceeded during the first nine (9) weeks, the penalties shall apply.

- B. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the penalties for exceeding class size limitations established in Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2, and 18-113.3 of this title shall not apply if the class size limitations provided in those sections are exceeded because the school district received students transferred in accordance with Sections 8-101 and 8-113, subsection A of Section 8-101.2 for siblings and children in foster care, or subsection B of Section 8-103.1 of this title.
- 20 <u>C.</u> For the purposes of calculating class size penalties
  21 established in Sections 18-113.1, 18-113.2 and 18-113.3 of this
  22 title, school districts shall use only the full-time-equivalency of
  23 the instructional staff who are under contract to work the full
  24 school year in question.

1	C. D. Beginning July 1, 2003, school districts that
2	participate in consolidation or annexation pursuant to the
3	provisions of the Oklahoma School Voluntary Consolidation and
4	Annexation Act shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 18-
5	113.1, 18-113.2 and 18-113.3 of this title for the year in which the
6	consolidation or annexation occurs and for the next five (5) fiscal
7	years.
8	SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.
9	SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
10	of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
11	declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
12	be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
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14	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 02/21/2023
15	- DO PASS, As Coauthored.
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