

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 HOUSE BILL 2947

By: Ranson

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to prisons and reformatories;
8 amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 538, which relates to
9 vocational-technical training and programs for
10 inmates; directing the development of policies and
11 procedures to allow for the transfer of education
12 credits; and providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 538, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 538. A. The Department of Human Services, through the
17 State Department of Rehabilitation Services, and the State Board of
18 Career and Technology Education shall implement policies and
19 programs consistent with available funds and applicable federal
20 statutes, rules and regulations, to provide appropriate education,
21 rehabilitation and vocational-technical training for persons in
22 custody of the Department of Corrections who are candidates for work
23 release programs, parole or release. It is the intent of the
24 Oklahoma Legislature that such programs will be available so that

1 said education and training will reasonably be expected to be
2 completed before parole, release or work release begins.

3 B. The Department of Corrections shall work cooperatively with
4 the State Department of Rehabilitation Services and the State Board
5 of Career and Technology Education to provide suitable candidates to
6 allow reasonable cost-effectiveness in the operation of said
7 education, rehabilitation and training programs. This shall be
8 accomplished through development of a method for screening and
9 classification of persons in all facilities operated by the
10 Department of Corrections, such screening and classification to be
11 done cooperatively with the above-named agencies.

12 C. The Department of Corrections and the State Board of Career
13 and Technology Education shall develop policies and procedures to
14 ensure that education credits earned by an inmate during any
15 education or training program shall be fully accepted at technology
16 center school districts throughout the state and that the inmate may
17 transfer said education credits to apply toward vocational and
18 technical education courses and subjects upon his or her release
19 from confinement.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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