

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 SENATE BILL 344

By: Floyd

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; directing each school
8 district library to provide certain media program;
9 directing each school district board of education to
10 adopt certain policy regarding the criteria for
11 evaluating and selecting certain materials; providing
12 contents of policy; directing a library, materials,
13 equipment, and staff to be available during school
14 day; directing certain staff to provide certain
15 assistance and instruction; providing for
16 codification; providing an effective date; and
17 declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-203 of Title 70, unless there
21 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. Each school district library in this state shall provide an
23 effective library media program through the acquisition of library
24 media materials sufficient to meet the instructional needs of
25 students enrolled in the school district. The library media program
26 shall include a balanced collection of print materials, nonprint

1 materials, multimedia resources, and equipment and supplies to meet
2 the needs of students and staff.

3 B. Each school district board of education shall adopt and post
4 on the school district's website a comprehensive written policy that
5 guides the selection, deselection, and reconsideration of library
6 media materials. The policy shall:

7 1. Ensure that the selection of library media materials
8 reflects the school district's philosophy, mission, guiding
9 principles, or other foundational documents;

10 2. Provide a framework for the consistent selection and
11 acquisition of library resources in all formats using a standard set
12 of criteria;

13 3. Avoid haphazard patterns of acquisition that would result in
14 waste or overlap of content;

15 4. Designate the staff person or persons responsible for
16 selecting materials and the parameters for selection decisions;
17 provided, however, the policy shall allow for the use of
18 professional judgment;

19 5. Ensure a diversity of viewpoints on all topics including
20 those that may be considered controversial;

21 6. Identify cooperative collection development arrangements
22 such as resource sharing including interlibrary loans, agreements to
23 purchase or lease electronic content, and resource retention
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1 commitments for materials such as government documents, archival
2 materials, and local author materials;

3 7. Provide standards for collection maintenance and the removal
4 of library resources for which the library has excess copies or that
5 are out of date, inaccurate, no longer reflecting the consensus of
6 the relevant field of study, in poor condition, rarely used, in an
7 obsolete format, or not meeting the needs of library patrons;

8 8. Supply guidelines for consideration of gifts and donations
9 of library media materials;

10 9. Establish a process by which individuals may share their
11 concerns about library media materials or resources in a discussion
12 with a certified library media specialist if one is available or
13 other staff person designated pursuant to paragraph 4 of this
14 subsection. If an individual's concerns are not resolved, he or she
15 may request a formal reconsideration on a form provided by the
16 school district; and

17 10. Affirm the importance of intellectual freedom, referencing
18 key documents such as the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution,
19 the Library Bill of Rights, and the Freedom to Read Statement.

20 C. The school district library, media center, media materials,
21 equipment, and related school staff shall be available to students
22 and staff throughout the school day. Staff shall assist students
23 and teachers in becoming effective users of ideas and information
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1 and provide instruction in the use of media materials and other
2 resources available in the school district library.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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