STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL NO. 916   By: Bergstrom

<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>

An Act relating to schools; directing the State
Department of Education to develop certain rubric by
certain date; providing contents for rubric;
requiring certain courses to be aligned to certain
standards and instructional practices; providing
certain construction; directing the State Board of
Education, subject to legislative appropriations, to
allocate certain amount of funds to develop certain
professional learning opportunities; allowing the
Department to create a grant program; providing
eligibility criteria to receive grant funds;
providing for use of funds; allowing grant funds to
be used to purchase certain technology; requiring
grant applications to include certain specification;
directing the Department to prioritize grant
applications based on certain criteria; providing for
promulgation of rules; providing for codification;
providing an effective date; and declaring an
emergency.

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 11-103.6m of Title 70, unless

there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The State Department of Education shall develop by December

31, 2019, a rubric for computer science programs in elementary,

middle and high schools to serve as a guide to schools for implementing quality computer science programs.

B. The rubric shall include but not be limited to the following recommendations:

1. No less than one computer science course taught by a teacher with a computer science certification at each school site, which may include core content courses where computer science concepts are integrated; and

2. Allowing all students to have access to career exploration activities that address how computer science skills are utilized.

C. Each course or offering shall be aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Computer Science and current research-based instructional practices.

D. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that courses may not be taught in a virtual, distance, integrated or other innovative setting.

SECTION 2.   NEW LAW   A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.6n of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Subject to legislative appropriations, One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) shall be allocated by the State Board of Education to develop and implement high quality professional learning opportunities for computer science courses that align to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Computer Science and align to the

rubric developed by the State Department of Education for quality

computer science programs pursuant to Section 1 of this act.

B. The State Department of Education may create a grant program

for the purpose of providing professional learning opportunities.

Entities eligible to receive grant funds shall include but not be

limited to:

1. A school district or a consortium of school districts; and

2. High-quality computer science professional learning

providers including institutions within The Oklahoma State System of

Higher Education, technology center schools overseen by the Oklahoma

State Board of Career and Technology Education, non-profit

organizations or private entities.

C. Grant funds shall be used by grantees for:

1. High-quality professional learning for kindergarten through

twelfth grade computer science content including travel to

workshops;

2. Credentialing for kindergarten through twelfth grade

computer science teachers including career and technology education

endorsements and academic supplemental endorsements;

3. Supports for kindergarten through twelfth grade computer

science professional learning including mentoring and coaching;

4. Creation of instructional resources to support

implementation including integrated curricular resources; and

5. Developing or redesigning computer science resources that are aligned with the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Computer Science.

Up to ten percent (10%) of grant funds may be used to study the effectiveness of professional learning, curricula or other initiatives provided for in this subsection.

D. A grantee may use grant funds to purchase technology including software, hardware or infrastructure, provided it is directly connected to the grantee's ability to implement a quality computer science program as defined by the rubric required by Section 1 of this act. To use grant funds for technology, a grantee shall specify in the grant application the amount of funds to be used for technology and the items to be purchased.

E. The State Department of Education shall prioritize the following grant applications:

1. School districts that are working in partnership with providers of high-quality professional learning for kindergarten through twelfth grade computer science;

2. Proposals that describe strategies to enroll underserved populations of students; and

3. Proposals from rural or urban areas with low penetration of kindergarten through twelfth grade computer science offerings including school districts that partner together to form clusters of implementation.

F. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

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

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