

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

4 HOUSE BILL 1940

 By: Strom

7 AS INTRODUCED

8 An Act relating to school attendance; amending 70
9 O.S. 2011, Section 10-106, which relates to
10 compulsory attendance; excusing absence due to
11 school-approved activities and approved
 extracurricular activities; authorizing absence for
 other reason deemed appropriate by school district;
 and providing an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 10-106, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 10-106. A. It shall be the duty of the principal or
18 head teacher of each public, private or other school in the State of
19 Oklahoma to keep a full and complete record of the attendance of all
20 children at such school and to notify the attendance officer of the
21 district in which such school is located of the absence of such
22 children from the school together with the causes thereof, if known;
23 and it shall be the duty of any parent, guardian or other person
24 having charge of any child of compulsory attendance age to notify

1 the child's teacher concerning the cause of any absences of such
2 child. It shall be the duty of the principal or head teacher to
3 notify the parent, guardian or responsible person of the absence of
4 the child for any part of the school day, unless the parent,
5 guardian or other responsible person notifies the principal or head
6 teacher of such absence. Such attendance officer and teacher shall
7 be required to report to the school health officer all absences on
8 account of illness with such information respecting the same as may
9 be available by report or investigation; and the attendance officer
10 shall, if justified by the circumstances, promptly give to the
11 parent, guardian or custodian of any child who has not complied with
12 the provisions of this article oral and documented or written
13 warning to the last-known address of such person that the attendance
14 of such child is required at some public, private or other school as
15 herein provided. If within five (5) days after the warning has been
16 received, the parent, guardian or custodian of such child does not
17 comply with the provisions of this article, then such attendance
18 officer shall make complaint against the parent, guardian or
19 custodian of such child in a court of competent jurisdiction for
20 such violation, which violation shall be a misdemeanor. If a child
21 is absent without valid excuse four (4) or more days or parts of
22 days within a four-week period or is absent without valid excuse for
23 ten (10) or more days or parts of days within a semester, the
24 attendance officer shall notify the parent, guardian or custodian of

1 the child and immediately report such absences to the district
2 attorney in the county wherein the school is located for juvenile
3 proceedings pursuant to Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes.

4 B. As used in this section, "valid excuse" includes, but is not
5 limited to, absences for:

6 1. Any school-approved activity;

7 2. Participation in extracurricular activities approved by the
8 board of education or the school principal; or

9 3. Any other reason deemed appropriate by each local school
10 district.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 02/13/2019
14 - DO PASS.

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