

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 HOUSE BILL 2255

By: Hilbert

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to workers' compensation; defining
8 terms; authorizing reduction in insurance premiums
9 for workers' compensation policies if the employer is
10 a work-based learning employer; providing
11 qualifications and requirements for reduction in
12 premiums; providing for codification; and providing
13 an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 42.1 of Title 85A, unless there
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 As used in this act:

19 1. "Work-based learning coordinator" means a teacher, as
20 defined by Section 6-101.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, who
21 coordinates and supervises students in work-based learning
22 placements;

23 2. "Work-based learning employer" means an employer who
24 provides work-based learning placements;

1 3. "Work-based learning placement" or "placement" means an
2 arrangement between a business or industry partner and a local
3 school system in which students are released for a portion of the
4 school day for structured learning at an employer's job site in
5 either a paid or unpaid position while receiving academic credit.
6 Work-based learning placements include, but are not limited to,
7 employability skill development, service learning, cooperative
8 education, internship, youth apprenticeship, and clinical
9 experiences; and

10 4. "Work-based learning student" means a student sixteen (16)
11 years of age or older in a work-based learning placement for an
12 employer.

13 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 42.2 of Title 85A, unless there
15 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16 A. For each policy of workers' compensation insurance issued or
17 renewed in this state on or after November 1, 2021, there may be
18 granted by the insurer a reduction in the premium for such policy,
19 not to exceed five percent (5%), if the insured has been certified
20 by the State Board of Career and Technology Education to the
21 Administrative Workers' Compensation Commission as a work-based
22 learning employer pursuant to Section 3 of this act and has notified
23 its insurer in writing of such certification.

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1 B. If granted, the premium discount provided by this section
2 may be applied to an insured's policy of workers' compensation
3 insurance at the discretion of the insured's insurer pro rata as of
4 the date the insured receives such certification and shall continue
5 for as long as the insured maintains the certification; provided,
6 however, that an insurer shall not be required to credit the actual
7 amount of the premium discount to the account of the insured until
8 the final premium audit under such policy. Certification of an
9 insured shall be required for each year in which a premium discount
10 is granted.

11 C. If it is determined that an insured misrepresented its
12 qualifications for certification pursuant to Section 3 of this act,
13 the workers' compensation insurance policy of such insured may be
14 subject to an additional premium for the purposes of reimbursement
15 of a previously granted premium discount and to cancellation in
16 accordance with the provisions of the policy.

17 D. Each insurer, at the discretion of the insured's insurer if
18 granting a premium reduction, shall make an annual report, in
19 accordance with rules promulgated by the Insurance Commissioner, to
20 the Insurance Commissioner illustrating the total dollar amount of
21 the premium discounts applied pursuant to this section.

22 E. The Insurance Commissioner and the State Board of Career and
23 Technology Education shall conduct a study to determine the impact
24 of the premium discounts provided pursuant to this section in

1 encouraging employers to provide work-based learning opportunities
2 for students sixteen (16) years of age or older.

3 F. The Insurance Commissioner shall be authorized to promulgate
4 rules necessary for the implementation and enforcement of this
5 section.

6 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 42.3 of Title 85A, unless there
8 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 A. A work-based learning employer that has been certified
10 pursuant to this section may be eligible for a premium discount
11 under the employer's workers' compensation insurance policy pursuant
12 to Section 2 of this act if the State Board of Career and Technology
13 Education certifies to the Administrative Workers' Compensation
14 Commission and the Insurance Commissioner that the work-based
15 learning employer:

16 1. Has entered into a training agreement with one or more work-
17 based learning students, the student's parent or guardian, and the
18 school's work-based learning coordinator;

19 2. Has developed, in conjunction with the school's work-based
20 learning coordinator, a detailed training plan for the work-based
21 learning student that focuses on development of technical skills and
22 employability skills;

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1 3. Assigns a mentor to each work-based learning student and
2 assists in monitoring the progress of the student; provided, a
3 mentor may be assigned to more than one student;

4 4. Provides workers' compensation insurance coverage for each
5 work-based learning student;

6 5. Complies with all federal, state, and local laws and
7 regulations regarding the employment of students; and

8 6. Complies with the rules of the State Board of Career and
9 Technology Education regarding work-based learning placement.

10 B. A self-insured employer or an employer member of a group
11 self-insurance association that provides work-based learning
12 placements for one or more work-based learning students
13 substantially in accordance with this section may be certified by
14 the State Board of Career and Technology Education to the Insurance
15 Commissioner and the Administrative Workers' Compensation Commission
16 as a work-based learning employer in compliance with this act.

17 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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