

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 130

By: Burns

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; creating the Oklahoma
8 American Heritage Education Act; providing short
9 title; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 24-106.1, which
10 relates to classroom use of founding documents;
11 allowing principals and teachers to use certain
12 documents; allowing teachers, principals and
13 administrators to display certain materials;
14 requiring public school libraries or equivalent
15 facilities to ensure access to certain materials;
16 allowing students to include references to certain
17 materials in homework, artwork or other assignments;
18 prohibiting penalty or reward based on students' use
19 of certain materials; providing for noncodification;
20 providing an effective date; and declaring an
21 emergency.

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

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
24 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

25 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma
26 American Heritage Education Act".

27 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 24-106.1, is
28 amended to read as follows:

1 Section 24-106.1. A. Principals and teachers in each public
2 school in this state may display in each classroom, school
3 auditorium, and school cafeteria under their supervision, the
4 following motto of the United States of America: "E PLURIBUS UNUM
5 (Out of Many One)" and "IN GOD WE TRUST". For purposes of this
6 subsection, "classroom" means any room of a public school where
7 instruction takes place.

8 B. Each school district in the state shall permit a principal
9 or teacher to utilize in a public school building, classroom, or at
10 any public school event any grade-level-appropriate excerpts or
11 portions of the documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or
12 records relating to the history, heritage, or foundation of the
13 United States or the State of Oklahoma including, but not limited
14 to, the:

- 15 1. Mayflower Compact;
- 16 2. Declaration of Independence;
- 17 3. Constitutions of the United States and the State of
18 Oklahoma;
- 19 4. Federalist Papers;
- 20 5. Pledge of Allegiance;
- 21 6. National anthem;
- 22 7. Presidential records and speeches;
- 23 8. Acts and published records of Congress; ~~and~~
- 24 9. United States Supreme Court decisions and records;

1 10. Common Sense by Thomas Paine;

2 11. Executive orders of the presidents of the United States;

3 12. Frederick Douglass' speech entitled "What to the Slave Is
4 the Fourth of July?";

5 13. Appeal by David Walker;

6 14. Chief Seattle's 1852 letter to the United States
7 government; and

8 15. Any other document of historical significance relating to
9 the founding of the United States or the State of Oklahoma
10 regardless of its religious content or the political correctness of
11 certain references.

12 C. School districts shall not limit or restrain instruction in
13 American or Oklahoma state history or heritage based on religious
14 references in documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or the
15 materials described in subsection B of this section. Teachers,
16 principals and administrators may display any or all of the
17 materials described in subsection B of this section. These and any
18 other materials shall be used for educational purposes only and not
19 to establish or promote any religion.

20 D. Each public school library or equivalent facility shall
21 ensure access, by electronic or other means, to the following: the
22 United States Constitution, the motto of the United States of
23 America, the national anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance, the

1 Declaration of Independence, the Mayflower Compact, the Federalist
2 Papers or Common Sense by Thomas Paine.

3 E. Public school students may include references to any of the
4 materials described in subsection B of this section in homework,
5 artwork and other written and oral assignments free from
6 discrimination based on religious content. Students shall not be
7 penalized or rewarded based on the religious content of their work.

8 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

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

13
14 58-1-352 EB 12/11/2020 11:43:14 AM
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25