## STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to school employees; defining term; requiring certain notification if an individual

with certain offenses; requiring certain board of education to suspend the employee pending certain

outcome; prohibiting employee from submitting resignation during suspension term; prohibiting

to include certain statement; providing for

providing an effective date; and declaring an

employed by certain school is being investigated for, has been arrested in relation to, or has been charged

suspension from depriving certain employee of certain compensation and benefits; prohibiting the employee

from being on school premises during suspension term; providing for extension of suspension under certain

circumstances; requiring certain superintendent to provide certain notification; requiring notification

promulgation of rules; providing for codification;

SENATE BILL 411 By: Jett

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

emergency.

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-144.1 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section, "offenses against students" means crimes or attempts to commit crimes provided for in Section 843.5 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes if the offense involved sexual

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abuse or sexual exploitation as those terms are defined in Section 1-1-105 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 741, 843.1, if the offense included sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, 865 et seq., 885, 888, 891, 1021, 1021.2, 1021.3, 1040.13a, 1087, 1088, 1111.1, 1114, or 1123 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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- B. If an individual employed by a public school district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school in this state:
- 1. Is being investigated for or has been arrested in relation to offenses against students; or
- 2. Has been charged with offenses against students, the law enforcement agency involved in the investigation, arrest, or charging shall notify the superintendent of the employing school district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school and the members of the board of education of the employing school district or the members of the governing board of the employing public charter school or public virtual charter school.
- C. 1. Upon receiving a notification as provided for in subsection B of this section, the board of education of the employing school district or the governing board of the employing public charter school or public virtual charter school shall suspend the school employee without notice or hearing pending the outcome of the law enforcement investigation. The suspension shall not deprive the employee of any compensation or other benefits to which he or

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she is otherwise entitled. The employee shall not be allowed on school premises during the term of suspension.

- 2. In a case involving a criminal charge or indictment, the suspension may extend until the case for the employee is adjudicated at trial. The extension shall not include any appeal process.
- 3. During the term of suspension, the employee shall be prohibited from submitting his or her resignation.
- D. Upon receiving a notification as provided for in subsection B of this section, the superintendent of the employing school district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school shall notify the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in the school district, public charter school, or public virtual charter school. The notification shall include a statement explaining that the school employee is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.
- E. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.
  - SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.
- SECTION 3. 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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