

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 788

By: Jett

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to students; creating the Students'
8 Bill of Rights; providing short title; affording
9 certain rights to students enrolled in public school
10 districts or public charter schools; allowing a
11 student or his or her parent or legal guardian to
12 submit written demand for enforcement of certain
13 rights; requiring response from school within certain
14 time period; allowing an action to be brought to
15 enforce certain rights; providing for attorney fees;
16 prohibiting an action from being brought for
17 violation of certain right unless certain
18 notification occurs; prohibiting an action from being
19 brought prior to certain incident within certain time
20 period; providing for codification; providing an
21 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
24 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-162 of Title 70, unless there
25 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

26 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Students'
27 Bill of Rights".

1 B. A student enrolled in and attending a public school district
2 or public charter school in this state shall be afforded the
3 following rights:

4 1. The right to a safe learning environment including the right
5 to be free from bullying and threatening behavior as defined in
6 Section 24-100.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

7 2. The right to an unbiased education that does not endorse,
8 favor, or promote socialism, communism, or Marxism and that is free
9 from anti-American bias;

10 3. The right to an unbiased learning environment that includes,
11 but is not limited to:

12 a. the right to a classroom environment that is free from
13 the display of flags or propaganda of any organization
14 or symbol of socialism, communism, Marxism, or anti-
15 American sentiment, and

16 b. the right to attend or participate in school-sponsored
17 or school-sanctioned events or activities that are
18 free from the display of flags or propaganda that is
19 paid for with public funds and that represents any
20 organization or symbol of socialism, communism,
21 Marxism, or anti-American sentiment;

22 4. The right of self-defense if attacked on school property or
23 during a school event;

1 5. The right to public and free expression of religion, speech,
2 and peaceable assembly including, but not limited to:

3 a. the right to participate or lead in voluntary prayer
4 pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-101.1 of
5 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

6 b. the right to observe one minute of silence each day
7 pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-101.2 of
8 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

9 c. the right to read religious texts of his or her
10 choosing during free time, and

11 d. the right to an unbiased education that does not
12 endorse, favor, promote, demean, show hostility
13 toward, or intentionally undermine any particular
14 religion or nonreligious faith or religious
15 perspective;

16 6. The right to an appropriate relationship with teachers and
17 school employees that is free from actions that constitute a crime
18 or an attempted crime under state statute;

19 7. The right to be free from the use of vulgar language
20 directed toward other individuals by other students, teachers,
21 athletic coaches, and school district employees;

22 8. The right to have a parent, legal guardian, or legal counsel
23 present if he or she is being questioned concerning potentially
24 illegal conduct; and

1 9. The right to be free from punishment or penalty at school or
2 during school-related activities for lawfully exercising his or her
3 rights or engaging in lawful conduct outside of school hours and
4 outside of school property or school events.

5 C. 1. A student or the parent or legal guardian of a student
6 who believes the student's rights provided for in subsection B of
7 this section have been violated may submit in writing a demand for
8 enforcement of his or her rights. Within seven (7) business days of
9 receipt of the demand, the school shall submit a response in writing
10 admitting to or denying the allegation.

11 2. The student or the parent or legal guardian of the student
12 may file an action to enforce the rights outlined in subsection B of
13 this section. If the student or the parent or legal guardian of the
14 student is the prevailing party, the court shall award reasonable
15 attorney fees.

16 3. An action may not be brought for a violation of the
17 provisions of paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section unless a
18 student or the parent or legal guardian of the student has notified
19 the school of ongoing bullying or threatening behavior, the school
20 has failed to address the bullying or threatening behavior by
21 allowing the alleged bully to remain in contact with an alleged
22 victim, and the continued bullying or threatening behavior rises to
23 the level of continual harassment. An action may not be brought
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1 prior to a second or subsequent incident within twelve (12) calendar
2 months.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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