

2020 OKLAHOMA LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL CHOICE REPORT CARD

OVERVIEW

This report card evaluates how state legislators voted on school choice issues during the 2020 legislative session by tracking their votes on 5 key pieces of legislation dealing with the expansion of access to educational options for Oklahoma families and kids. The grades that are listed on the report card under the columns “percent” and “letter” indicate the representative’s level of support for school choice based on their voting history.

In 2020, the Oklahoma State Legislature was scheduled to convene on February 3 and adjourn on May 29. Several state legislatures suspended their sessions or otherwise limited legislative activity in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Governor Kevin Stitt (R) called the Oklahoma State Legislature into a special session scheduled to convene on April 6, 2020. The legislature had previously suspended its session, effective March 23, 2020, through April 3, 2020. That suspension was originally scheduled to continue through March 27, 2020. On May 4, 2020, the legislature reconvened its regular session with a limited amount of legislation discussed.

ChoiceMatters is a statewide program that focuses on giving parents information, resources and support to help them navigate Oklahoma’s pre-K through 12th grade education options.

BILL SUMMARIES

HOUSE BILLS

HOUSE BILL 3369

HB3369 relates to the allocation of funds from the state-appropriated revenue for charter schools. This bill aimed to reduce the fee that charter schools were required to pay to their sponsoring entity **from 5% to 3%**.

The state mandates that a charter must have a supporting institutional entity, either in the form of technology center school district, a higher education institution, the State Board of Education, a federally recognized Indian tribe, or the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board. The sponsor may charge the charter school for administrative services rendered.

Last Action: HB 3369 was approved by the Governor 05/21/2020 and passed on 05/22/2020.

HOUSE BILL 3321

HB 3321 is an expansion to the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship Program to benefit children of incarcerated parents. It is also tied to SB 360 (see below). The Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program was established to provide a scholarship for students with an individualized education program (IEP) so that they may have access to a private school in accordance with their service place. The expansion of HB 3321

(and SB 360) within this context would extend program eligibility to the parent or legal guardian of a public-school student with a disability or to children with at least one incarcerated parent. This bill requires that in support of an application to the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship program that the applicant, either a parent or a legal guardian, provide documentation that verifies that at least one parent of the student is incarcerated in the custody of Department of corrections, another out-of-state prison system, or the Federal Bureau of Prisons in order to maintain eligibility, and, if it passed, would be effective on November 1, 2020.

Last action: Originally introduced to the Senate in 2019 as SB 360, HB 3321 was introduced on 01/16/2020, then first heard on 02/03/2020 and was referred to the Appropriations and Budget Education Subcommittee (02/04/2020). Due to the Covid-19 Emergency Declaration only a limited amount of legislation was discussed during session and HB 3321 was not heard on the floor.

SENATE BILLS

SENATE BILL 1364

SB 1364 creates the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund; providing funds for grants and other resources for charter school buildings. SB 1364 modifies the powers and duties of the State Board of Education by removing language relating to administration of the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund. The measure clarifies that the term “school districts” includes charter schools, and virtual charter schools are not to be considered “charter schools” for the purposes of eligibility for money from the fund. The measure directs the Board to solicit proposals for one-time capital expenditure grants, which are to comprise 25% of the fund, and for multi-year facility grants, which are to comprise 75% of the fund.

Last Action: SB 1364 was discussed and approved in the Education and Appropriations Committees during the second reading. Due to the Covid-19 Emergency Declaration only a limited amount of legislation was discussed during session and SB 1364 was not heard on the floor.

SENATE BILL 407

SB407 increases the total authorized credits for taxpayers making a contribution to an eligible scholarship-granting organization or to an eligible educational improvement grant organization. Current law caps the credits to \$3.5 million and \$1.5 million respectively. This measure proposes to increase the cap on tax credits to \$40 million for both types of contributions. The measure also broadens eligible schools to include schools located in any public-school district.

Last Action: SB 407 is a bill carried over from 2019. The bill was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee (2/5/19) and was reported from that committee (2/13/19). SB407 was voted on by the Senate and passed with 27 ayes and 20 nays. The bill was sent to the House and referred to the House Appropriations and Budget Committee and passed with 16 ayes and 13 nays (4/11/19). The bill was not voted on by the House by the deadline and carried over to the next legislative period. The bill was scheduled to be heard later in session, but it did not make it due to the Covid-19 Emergency Declaration.

SENATE BILL 360

SB 360 was tied to HB 3321 to expand the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship Program to benefit children of incarcerated parents. SB 360 is an expansion to the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship Program to benefit

children of incarcerated parents. It is also tied to HB 3321 (see above). The Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program was established to provide a scholarship for students with an individualized education program (IEP) so that they may have access to a private school in accordance with their service place. The expansion of SB 360 within this context would extend program eligibility to the parent or legal guardian of a public-school student with a disability or to children with at least one incarcerated parent. This bill requires that in support of an application to the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship program that the applicant, either a parent or a legal guardian, provide documentation that verifies that at least one parent of the student is incarcerated in the custody of Department of corrections, another out-of-state prison system, or the Federal Bureau of Prisons in order to maintain eligibility, and, if it passed, would be effective on November 1, 2020.

Last action: SB 360 was introduced on 01/16/2019. The first hearing was 02/04/2019 and referred to the Education Committee, then to the Appropriations Committee on 02/05/2019 with 25% progression but then died in committee. It was sent to the House in the form of HB 3321 on 02/03/2020. Due to the Covid-19 Emergency Declaration only a limited amount of legislation was discussed during session and HB 3321 was not heard on the floor.

HOUSE REPORT CARD

Representative	Party	SB 407	HB 3321	HB3369	Percent '20	Letter '20
Albright, Kelly	D			Y	100%	A
Baker, Rhonda	R	Y		N	50%	C
Bell, Merleyn	D				n/a	n/a
Bennett, Forrest	D	N		N	0%	F
Blancett, Meloyde	D	N			0%	F
Boatman, Jeff	R				n/a	n/a
Boles, Brad	R			Y	100%	A
Branham, Chelsey	D			Y	100%	A
Brewer, Denise	D			N	0%	F
Burns, Ty	R			Y	100%	A
Bush, Carol	R			Y	100%	A
Caldwell, Chad	R			Y	100%	A
Caldwell, Trey	R			Y	100%	A
Conley, Sherrie	R	Authored			100%	A
Cornwell, Rusty	R			Y	100%	n/a
Crosswhite Hader, Denise	R			Y	100%	A
Davis, Dean	R			Y	100%	A
Dills, Sheila	R			Y	100%	A
Dollens, Mickey	D				n/a	n/a
Dunnington, Jason	D			N	0%	F

Echols, Jon	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Fetgatter, Scott	R	N		Y	50%	C
Fincher, Derrel	R			Y	100%	A
Ford, Ross	R	N		Y	50%	C
Frix, Avery	R			Y	100%	A
Fugate, Andy	D			Y	100%	A
Gann, Tom	R			Y	100%	A
Goodwin, Regina	D	N		N	0%	F
Grego, Jim	R			Y	100%	A
Hardin, David	R			Y	100%	A
Hardin, Tommy	R			N	0%	F
Hasenbeck, Toni	R			Y	100%	A
Hilbert, Kyle	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Hill, Brian	R			Y	100%	A
Humphrey, Justin	R			Y	100%	A
Johns, Ronny	R			Y	100%	A
Kannady, Chris	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Kerbs, Dell	R			Y	100%	A
Kiger, Lundy	R			Y	100%	A
Lawson, Mark	R	N		Y	50%	C
Lepak, Mark	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Loring, Ben	D			Y	100%	A
Lowe, Jason	D				N/A	n/a
Luttrell, Ken	R			Y	100%	A
Manger, Robert	R				n/a	n/a
Marti, T.J.	R			Y	100%	A
Martinez, Ryan	R	Y		Y	100%	A
May, Stan	R			Y	100%	A
McBride, Mark	R	N		Y	50%	C
McCall, Charles	R			Y	100%	A
McDugle, Kevin	R			Y	100%	A
McEntire, Marcus	R	N		Y	50%	C
Meredith, Matt	D	N		Y	50%	C
Miller, Nicole	R			Y	100%	A
Mize, Garry	R			Y	100%	A
Moore, Lewis	R				n/a	n/a
Munson, Cyndi	D	N		Y	50%	C
Newton, Carl	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Nichols, Monroe	D	N		Y	50%	c

Nollan, Jadine	R			Y	100%	A
O'Donnell, Terry	R			Y	100%	A
Olsen, Jim	R			Y	100%	A
Ortega, Charles	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Osburn, Mike	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Pae, Daniel	R			Y	100%	A
Patzkowsky, Kenton	R			Y	100%	A
Perryman, David	D				n/a	n/a
Pfeiffer, John	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Phillips, Logan	R			Y	100%	A
Pittman, Ajay	D	Authored			n/a	n/a
Provenzano, Melissa	D			Y	100%	A
Randleman, Randy	R			Y	100%	A
Ranson, Trish	D			Y	100%	A
Roberts, Dustin	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Roberts, Sean	R			Y	100%	A
Roe, Cynthia	R			Y	100%	A
Rosecrants, Jacob	D			Y	100%	A
Russ, Todd	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Sanders, Mike	R			Y	100%	A
Sims, Lonnie	R			Y	100%	A
Smith, David	R			Y	100%	A
Sneed, Chris	R			Y	100%	A
Stark, Marilyn	R			Y	100%	A
Steagall, Jay	R			Y	100%	A
Sterling, Danny	R			Y	100%	A
Stone, Shane	D				N/A	n/a
Strom, Judd	R			Y	100%	A
Tadlock, Johnny	R			Y	100%	A
Talley, John	R			Y	100%	A
Taylor, Zack	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Townley, Tammy	R			Y	100%	A
Vancuren, Mark	R			Y	100%	A
Virgin, Emily	D	N		Y	50%	C
Waldron, John	D				n/a	n/a
Walke, Collin	D			Y	50%	C
Wallace, Kevin	R			Y	100%	A

West, Josh	R	N		Y	50%	C
West, Kevin	R	Y		Y	100%	A
West, Tammy	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Worthen, Rande	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Wright, Harold	R			Y	100%	A

SENATE REPORT CARD

Senator	Party	SB 407	SB 360	SB 1364	Percent '20	Letter '20
Allen, Mark	R			Y	100%	A
Bergstrom, Micheal	R			Y	100%	A
Bice, Stephanie	R	Y			100%	A
Boggs, Larry	R			Y	0%	F
Boren, Mary	D			N	0%	F
Brooks, Michael	D	Y		N	100%	A
Bullard, David	R			Y	100%	A
Coleman, Bill	R			Y	0%	F
Dahm, Nathan	R			Y	100%	A
Daniels, Julie	R	Y		Y	100%	A
David, Kim	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Dossett, J.J.	D	N		N	0%	F
Dugger, Tom	R	N		Y	0%	F
Floyd, Kay	D	N		N	0%	F
Hall, Chuck	R	N		Y	0%	F
Haste, John	R			Y	33%	C
Hicks, Carri	D			N	0%	F
Howard, Brent	R			Y	100%	A
Ikley-Freeman, Allison	D	N			0%	F
Jech, Darcy	R	N		Y	100%	A
Kidd, Chris	R	Y		Y	0%	F
Kirt, Julia	D			N	0%	F
Leewright, James	R			Y	50%	C
Matthews, Kevin	D	Y		N	0%	F
McCortney, Greg	R			Y	100%	A
Montgomery, John Michael	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Murdock, Casey	R			Y	100%	A

Newhouse, Joe	R			Y	100%	A
Paxton, Lonnie	R			Y	100%	A
Pederson, Roland	R			Y	67%	C
Pemberton, Dewayne	R	N		Y	0%	F
Pugh, Adam	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Quinn, Marty	R			Y	100%	A
Rader, Dave	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Rosino, Paul	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Scott, Paul	R	Y		Y	0%	F
Sharp, Ron	R			N	0%	F
Shaw, Wayne	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Silk, Joseph	R			Y	100%	A
Simpson, Frank	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Smalley, Jason	R			Y	33%	C
Standridge, Rob	R			Y	100%	A
Stanislawski, Gary	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Stanley, Brenda	R			Y	0%	F
Thompson, Roger	R	Y		Y	100%	A
Treat, Greg	R			Y	100%	A
Weaver, Darrell	R			Y	0%	F
Young, George	D			N	0%	F