

2019 OKLAHOMA LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL CHOICE REPORT CARD

OVERVIEW

This report card evaluates how state legislators voted on school choice issues during the 2019 legislative session by tracking their votes on 4 key pieces of legislation dealing with the expansion of access to educational options for Oklahoma families and kids.

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 offerings.

BILL SUMMARIES

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE BILL 2621

HB2621 would, beginning with tax year 2019, modify the Oklahoma Equal Opportunity Scholarship Act to expand eligibility for the program to any public school located within a public-school district with fewer than 8,500 students, up from the current 4,500 student level.

The measure also proposes to increase the annual cap on the amount of tax credits that can be authorized from \$3.5 million to \$30 million for donations to eligible scholarship-granting organizations and from \$1.5 million to \$30 million for donations to eligible educational improvement grant organizations.

Currently, individuals and businesses can receive a tax credit equal to 50-75% of the amount contributed to an eligible scholarship-granting organization or educational improvement grant organization. Furthermore, the tax credit is limited to \$1,000 per individual donor, \$2,000 for joint filers and \$100,000 for businesses.

Last Action: The bill passed the House Appropriations and Budget Committee with 19 ayes and 11 nays. The bill was not heard on the House floor and died. (3/14/2019).

SENATE BILLS

SENATE BILL 153

SB153 relates to charter school funding and would provide to a charter school that has received a state report card grade of C or better, and been in operation for two or more years, an increased amount of funding equal to their average daily membership (ADM) multiplied by a building fund weight of 1.5.

Charter schools that receive a state report card grade of D or lower would receive an increased amount funding based on the school's ADM multiplied by a building fund weight of 0.75. Expenditures from this additional funding may be spent on capital projects.

Last Action: The bill passed the Senate Committee on Education with 8 ayes and 7 nays. The bill was then referred to the Appropriations Committee. The bill was not heard by the Senate committee deadline. (2/28/2019).

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: 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 died.

SENATE BILL 570

SB570 would create the Hope Scholarship Program Act to provide scholarships to a private school of choice to students who experienced bullying incidents beginning in the 2020- 2021 school year. Parents requesting the scholarship must provide documentation factually certifying that a student experienced bullying or harassment incidents at least three times in a single school year. Eligible students must also have attended a public school and have acceptance of admission from the private school. Parents must assume full financial responsibility for the education of the student.

School districts must notify each parent with a student enrolled in the district about the program. Private school districts must receive approval from the State Department of Education to participate in the program and must provide evidence of the district's adherence to accreditation standards, fiscal soundness, and employment of properly certified teachers. Students participating in the program must adhere to various requirements outlined in the measure.

The State Department of Education is directed by the measure to calculate the total costs of the program and reserve the total amount appropriated to the State Board of Education for state aid purposes and any other revenue available for allocation for state aid purposes the total cost for all scholarship payments. Scholarship awards will be based on the student's equivalent impact on the state aid formula. The Department may retain 2.5% of the amount awarded to administer the program. The Department is further directed to monitor private school participation in the program and revoke a private school's participation in the program if it fails to comply with the provisions of the measure. The measure provides for an appeals process.

Last Action: The bill was referred to the Education Committee, then the Appropriations Committee (2/5/19). The measure failed in the Education Committee with 6 ayes and 10 nays and died. (2/12/19)

SENATE BILL 901

SB901 broadens eligibility for the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program to include students who are homeless. The measure provides for the State Department of Education to retain up to a 2.5% administration fee from a student's scholarship if the private school does not charge tuition.

Last Action: The bill was referred to the Education Committee, then the Appropriations Committee (2/7/19). The measure was withdrawn from the Appropriations Committee and died. (2/27/19)

HOUSE REPORT CARD

Representative	Party	HB 2621	SB 407	Percent '19	Letter '19
Albright, Kelly	D			n/a	n/a
Baker, Rhonda	R	N	N	0%	F
Bell, Merleyn	D			n/a	n/a
Bennett, Forrest	D	N	N	0%	F
Blancett, Meloyde	D			n/a	n/a
Boatman, Jeff	R			n/a	n/a
Boles, Brad	R			n/a	n/a
Branham, Chelsey	D			n/a	n/a
Brewer, Denise	D			n/a	n/a
Burns, Ty	R			n/a	n/a
Bush, Carol	R			n/a	n/a
Caldwell, Chad	R			n/a	n/a
Caldwell, Trey	R			n/a	n/a
Conley, Sherrie	R			n/a	n/a
Cornwell, Rusty	R			n/a	n/a
Crosswhite Hader, Denise	R			n/a	n/a
Davis, Dean	R			n/a	n/a
Dills, Sheila	R			n/a	n/a
Dollens, Mickey	D			n/a	n/a
Dunnington, Jason	D			n/a	n/a
Echols, Jon	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Fetgatter, Scott	R	Y	N	50%	C
Fincher, Derrel	R			n/a	n/a
Ford, Ross	R	N	N	0%	F
Frix, Avery	R			n/a	n/a
Fugate, Andy	D			n/a	n/a
Gann, Tom	R			n/a	n/a
Goodwin, Regina	D	N	N	0%	F
Grego, Jim	R			n/a	n/a
Hardin, David	R			n/a	n/a
Hardin, Tommy	R			n/a	n/a
Hasenbeck, Toni	R			n/a	n/a
Hilbert, Kyle	R	Y	Y	100%	A

Hill, Brian	R			n/a	n/a
Humphrey, Justin	R			n/a	n/a
Johns, Ronny	R			n/a	n/a
Kannady, Chris	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Kerbs, Dell	R			n/a	n/a
Kiger, Lundy	R			n/a	n/a
Lawson, Mark	R	Y	N	50%	C
Lepak, Mark	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Loring, Ben	D			n/a	n/a
Lowe, Jason	D			n/a	n/a
Luttrell, Ken	R			n/a	n/a
Manger, Robert	R			n/a	n/a
Marti, T.J.	R			n/a	n/a
Martinez, Ryan	R	Y	Y	100%	A
May, Stan	R			n/a	n/a
McBride, Mark	R	Y	N	50%	C
McCall, Charles	R			n/a	n/a
McDugle, Kevin	R			n/a	n/a
McEntire, Marcus	R	N	N	0%	F
Meredith, Matt	D	N	N	0%	F
Miller, Nicole	R			n/a	n/a
Mize, Garry	R			n/a	n/a
Moore, Lewis	R			n/a	n/a
Munson, Cyndi	D	N	N	0%	F
Newton, Carl	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Nichols, Monroe	D	N	N	0%	F
Nollan, Jadine	R			n/a	n/a
O'Donnell, Terry	R	Y		100%	A
Olsen, Jim	R			n/a	n/a
Ortega, Charles	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Osburn, Mike	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Pae, Daniel	R			n/a	n/a
Patzkowsky, Kenton	R			n/a	n/a
Perryman, David	D			n/a	n/a
Pfeiffer, John	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Phillips, Logan	R			n/a	n/a
Pittman, Ajay	D			n/a	n/a
Provenzano, Melissa	D			n/a	n/a
Randleman, Randy	R			n/a	n/a

Ranson, Trish	D			n/a	n/a
Roberts, Dustin	R		Y	100%	A
Roberts, Sean	R			n/a	n/a
Roe, Cynthia	R			n/a	n/a
Rosecrants, Jacob	D			n/a	n/a
Russ, Todd	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Sanders, Mike	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Sims, Lonnie	R			n/a	n/a
Smith, David	R			n/a	n/a
Sneed, Chris	R			n/a	n/a
Stark, Marilyn	R			n/a	n/a
Steagall, Jay	R			n/a	n/a
Sterling, Danny	R			n/a	n/a
Stone, Shane	D			n/a	n/a
Strom, Judd	R			n/a	n/a
Tadlock, Johnny	R			n/a	n/a
Talley, John	R			n/a	n/a
Taylor, Zack	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Townley, Tammy	R			n/a	n/a
Vancuren, Mark	R			n/a	n/a
Virgin, Emily	D	N	N	0%	F
Waldron, John	D			n/a	n/a
Walke, Collin	D	N		0%	F
Wallace, Kevin	R	Y	Y	100%	A
West, Josh	R	N	N	0%	F
West, Kevin	R	Y	Y	100%	A
West, Tammy	R			n/a	n/a
Worthen, Rande	R	Y	Y	100%	A
Wright, Harold	R			n/a	n/a

SENATE REPORT CARD

Senator	Party	SB 153	SB 407	SB 570	SB 901	Percent '19	Letter '19
Allen, Mark	R		Y			100%	A
Bergstrom, Micheal	R		Y			100%	A
Bice, Stephanie	R		Y			100%	A
Boggs, Larry	R		N			0%	F
Boren, Mary	D		N			0%	F

Brooks, Michael	D		1			100%	A
Bullard, David	R		1	1	1	100%	A
Coleman, Bill	R		N			0%	F
Dahm, Nathan	R		1			100%	A
Daniels, Julie	R		1			100%	A
David, Kim	R		1			100%	A
Dossett, J.J.	D		N	N	N	0%	F
Dugger, Tom	R		N	N	N	0%	F
Floyd, Kay	D		N			0%	F
Hall, Chuck	R		N			0%	F
Haste, John	R		N	N	1	33%	C
Hicks, Carri	D		N	N	N	0%	F
Howard, Brent	R		1			100%	A
Ikley-Freeman, Allison	D		N	N	N	0%	F
Jech, Darcy	R		1			100%	A
Kidd, Chris	R		N	N	N	0%	F
Kirt, Julia	D		N			0%	F
Leewright, James	R		E			50%	C
Matthews, Kevin	D		N			0%	F
McCortney, Greg	R		1			100%	A
Montgomery, John Michael	R		1			100%	A
Murdock, Casey	R		1			100%	A
Newhouse, Joe	R		1	1	1	100%	A
Paxton, Lonnie	R		1			100%	A
Pederson, Roland	R		1	N	1	67%	C
Pemberton, Dewayne	R		N	N	N	0%	F
Pugh, Adam	R		1			100%	A
Quinn, Marty	R		1	1	1	100%	A
Rader, Dave	R		1			100%	A
Rosino, Paul	R		1			100%	A
Scott, Paul	R		N	N	N	0%	F
Sharp, Ron	R		N			0%	F
Shaw, Wayne	R		1	1	1	100%	A
Silk, Joseph	R		1			100%	A
Simpson, Frank	R		1			100%	A
Smalley, Jason	R		N	N	1	33%	C
Standridge, Rob	R		1			100%	A
Stanislowski, Gary	R		1	1	1	100%	A

Stanley, Brenda	R		N			0%	F
Thompson, Roger	R		1			100%	A
Treat, Greg	R		1	1	1	100%	A
Weaver, Darrell	R		N			0%	F
Young, George	D		N			0%	F