

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2731

By: Jordan, Derby and
McCullough of the House

and

Anderson of the Senate

An Act relating to schools; creating the School District Employee Direct Deposit Act; providing definitions of certain terms; authorizing a school district board of education to adopt a direct deposit system for school district employees; prohibiting districts from charging employees certain fees; amending Section 1, Chapter 311, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-206), which relates to annual salary bonuses; providing for pro-rated bonuses for certain individuals; providing for codification; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "School District Employee Direct Deposit Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-106.2 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Direct deposit system" means a method of electronically transferring a payroll claim for an employee to a financial institution; and

2. "Employee" means any certified or support employee as defined in Section 26-103 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes employed by any school district in this state.

B. A school district board of education may adopt a policy implementing a direct deposit system for employees of the school district.

C. No school district which chooses to implement a direct deposit system may charge any employee of that school district any fee or assessment as a result of the implementation and administration of a direct deposit system.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 311, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-206), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-206. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the State Board of Education shall provide an annual salary bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) no later than January 31 of each year to the following employees of public school districts:

1. Any school psychologist who has been designated as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National School Psychology Certification Board; and

2. Any speech-language pathologist or audiologist who holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

B. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the provision of the bonus pursuant to this ~~act~~ section to include, but not be limited to, a process by which a nationally certified school psychologist, speech-language pathologist and audiologist may verify that:

1. The individual is still employed ~~full-time~~ by a school district;

2. The certification required in subsection A of this section has been attained and has not lapsed; and

3. The individual is licensed to practice in this state.

C. An individual who qualifies for the bonus pursuant to this section and who is employed by a school district on less than a full-time basis, shall receive a pro-rated bonus based on the proportionate equivalency to full-time employment.

D. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this section. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of calculating Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma contributions or benefits.

~~D.~~ E. The amount of the salary bonus pursuant to subsection A of this section shall be increased to Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) upon implementation of subsection N of Section 6-204.2 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 12th day of May, 2008.

David Dewey

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 15th day of April, 2008.

Randy Brogden

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Governor this 13th
day of May, 2008,
at 12:12 o'clock P M.

By: *[Signature]*

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma the 16th day of
May, 2008, at 4:45 o'clock P M.

[Signature]

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this
19th day of May, 2008,
at 11:20 o'clock A M.

By: *M. Susan Lovey*