An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 929

By: Sharp and Pittman of the Senate

and

Wood and Leewright of the House

An Act relating to schools; creating the 2016 Workforce Oklahoma Academic High School Diploma Recognition Act; allowing school districts to implement graduation recognitions for certain students; establishing eligibility criteria for certain recognitions; providing for indication of recognitions; providing definition; providing for promulgation of rules; and providing for codification.

SUBJECT: Creating the 2016 Workforce Oklahoma Academic High School Diploma Recognition Act

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.61 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "2016 Workforce Oklahoma Academic High School Diploma Recognition Act".

B. Beginning with the 2020-2021 high school graduating class, a school district may implement graduation recognitions for students who have met the curricular requirements set forth in Section 11-

103.6d of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and who have participated in an approved program of study leading to a recognized career and/or postsecondary education pathway. Such students may be eligible for the following graduation recognitions on their standard diploma:

1. "Recognition of highest academic distinction" for students who achieve a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale for all coursework performed in their career pathway of choice, along with meeting state-recognized college entrance requirements at the time of graduation;

2. "Recognition of academic honors" for students who achieve a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for all coursework performed in their career pathway of choice, along with meeting state-recognized college entrance requirements at the time of graduation; and

3. "Recognition of academic merit" for students who achieve a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale for all coursework performed in their career pathway of choice, along with meeting state-recognized college entrance requirements at the time of graduation.

C. A graduation recognition awarded pursuant to this section may be indicated upon the diploma and high school transcript of those students who qualify for such status.

D. For the purposes of this section "approved programs of study" shall mean those programs of study identified by the local school district that shall include an identified sequence of courses leading to career entry and/or postsecondary education. Approved course sequences shall include at least six (6) credits within a career pathway and shall include advanced placement courses, career and technical science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses, concurrent enrollment college courses or a combination of such courses that best prepare students for work or further study in a career pathway of their choice.

E. The State Board of Education and the State Board of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

Passed the Senate the 23rd day of May, 2016.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of May, 2016.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 27th

day of May, 2016, at 11:00 o'clock A M.

By: Audrey Rockwell

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 6th

day of June, 2016, at 3:53 o'clock P M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 6th

day of June, 2016, at 4:53 o'clock P. M.

By: Chris Benge