2017 Oklahoma Bills Concerning the Education of Students with Disabilities Andrea Kunkel, CCOSA General Counsel/ODSS Executive Director As of May 15, 2017

House Bills				
2017 Bill Number	Author	Description		
HB 1206	Casey & Pemberton	Provides that any special ed teacher who has not completed a Commission-approved teacher education program in elementary ed or early childhood but has successfully completed the subject area portion of the exam may be certified in elementary ed or early childhood to provide direct instruction and serve as the teacher of record for grading purposes in special ed settings only Action: Governor approved April 24. Effective November 1, 2017.		
HB 1459	Echols & Griffin	Creates new exemption to certain Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Act scholarship eligibility requirements for students adopted from permanent DHS custody, in DHS out of home placement or in OJA custody and – in version pending before GCCA - for any student identified as having a disability through IDEA procedures before 2 nd grade enrollment Action: House rejected Senate amendments; bill is in Conference Committee GCCA		
HB 1623	Cleveland & Standridge	Prohibits district personnel from using corporal punishment on students identified with the most significant cognitive disabilities according to SDE-established criteria, unless addressed in IEP. This can be waived if student's parent or guardian provides written consent Action: Governor approved May 10. Effective November 1, 2017.		

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HB 1789	Cannaday	Provides, as to SBE and CEQA, in collaboration with Regents for Higher Ed, that "quality education for prospective teachers shall be provided in research-based instructional strategies for instruction, assessment and intervention for literacy development for all students, including advanced readers, typically developing readers and struggling readers who are coping with a range of challenges, including, but not limited to, English learners and learners with handicapping conditions and learning disabilities (including dyslexia). Quality training shall include guidance from professional resources such as the Report of the National Reading Panel, Response to Intervention guidelines and professional organizations such as the Council for Exceptional Children, International Dyslexia Association, International Literacy Association, National Council of Teachers of English and National Association for the Education of Young Children." Also provides that "Teacher candidates shall study strategies including, but not limited to, instruction that is explicitly taught, sequenced, multimodal (reading, writing, speaking, listening, handson, etc.), multidisciplinary and reflective to adapt for individual learners. " (Does not include any language placing training responsibilities on common schools) Action: Governor approved April 24. Effective July 1, 2017.
HB 2008	McCall & Stanislawski	Creates the Dyslexia and Education Task Force , with goal of creating a dyslexia handbook that will provide guidance for schools, students and parents in identification, intervention and support of students with dyslexia through accommodations and assistive technology Action: House accepted Senate amendments to bill; on May 9, sent to Governor for approval. Effective upon approval.
HB 2247	Brumbaugh, Wright & Sykes	Permits an individual to initiate guardianship proceedings for a minor believed to be incapacitated, at age 17 and 6 months, by filing a petition and requesting that any guardianship order take effect immediately on the minor's 18th birthday Action: Governor approved May 2. Effective November 1, 2017.

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Senate Bills				
2017 Bill Number	Author	Description		
SB 301	Griffin, Pittman & Echols	Creates exemption to certain LNH Act scholarship eligibility requirements for students in DHS out of home placement or OJA custody Action: Governor approved May 12. Effective September 1, 2017.		
SB 632	Sharp & Henke	Creates Education Compact for Students in State Care Act; includes provisions re students with disabilities, including requirement for provision of comparable services consistent with IDEA and reevaluation for certain move-in students Action: Governor approved May 2. Effective November 1, 2017.		