

Oklahoma State Senate

Communications Division
State Capitol
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

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Governor Signs Legislation Creating Task Force on Internet-Based Instruction

OKLAHOMA CITY – More and more of Oklahoma’s students are relying on the internet for their education, and thanks to legislation signed into law Friday those students and their parents will be able to be rest assured that they’re getting the same high quality education as they would in a traditional classroom. SB 604 was authored by Sen. Gary Stanislawski who wanted to ensure that Oklahoma’s internet-based education system is efficient and reliable, and not just the easy way out for students.

“Because of the growing popularity of internet-based education in our state, it’s crucial that we ensure the quality of this program and that we’re not short-changing our students,” said Stanislawski, R-Tulsa. “This is a great option for many students with extenuating circumstances, but we need to make sure that they aren’t just using this because it’s easier or less work. Allowing a lower level of quality will not only hurt the students, but the state when those students don’t have the basic knowledge to become productive citizens in our society, and that’s the last thing we want.”

SB 604, which was requested by the United Suburban Schools Association, will create a task force to study the efficiency and accountability of the state’s Internet-based instruction program. The seven member task force will review internet-based instruction programs offered throughout the state and make recommendations for any statutory or regulatory changes necessary to improve the accountability and effectiveness of the program. The task force must submit its findings by November 10, 2009.

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