

Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislation

Judy Heumann Act



OU-505

Definitions-

-“Public school” refers to all learning institutions funded by local, state, and/or federal governments, including institutions of higher education such as public universities.

-“The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)” refers to a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and

all public and private places that are open to the general public.

-“Infraction” refers to anything that an ADA Coordinator deems to be out of compliance with the ADA.

-“ADA Coordinator” refers to the individuals who have been determined to have adequate knowledge of the ADA and have been appointed as such within all local and state government entities, including school districts, with more than fifty (50) employees.

-“Special Olympics Oklahoma” refers to the nonprofit organization that provides sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

About the Bill-

Presented by Representative Hutchins (OU). This bill requires all public schools in the state of Oklahoma to schedule an inspection with an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator every four years. On the agreed-upon date and time the ADA Coordinator will inspect the campus of the public school to ensure compliance with the ADA.

Any and all fines collected by the Oklahoma Office of Disability Concerns will be donated to Special Olympics Oklahoma.

This act will become effective ninety days after passage and approval.

Penalties-

When the inspection is completed the school will have 90 days to fix any and all infractions. The ADA Coordinator will provide the public school with a detailed list

of infractions the public school will need to have fixed within those 90 days. Upon failing a second inspection the school will be fined five hundred dollars for each remaining infraction.

If it is discovered that a public school has failed to schedule or complete an inspection from the ADA the school will be fined one hundred dollars every month it is overdue. All state-accredited public schools will lose state accreditation upon failing a third inspection or failing to schedule and complete an inspection from more than five years.

Reception in the House-

Unsurprisingly, giving the overwhelming support of this bill, the house motioned for a wave of the rules and voted on the bill without further questions or amendments. There were 48 votes to pass the bill and not one single vote against it.

Thank you Representative Hutchins!