



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

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## RED BANNER UPDATE

**Date:** May 5, 2021

**Re:** HB 2030

**Signed:** April 28, 2021

**Effective:** November 1, 2021

**Topic:** New Subject Matter Standards and Required Naturalization Test

**Summary:** This Act amends OKLA. STAT. tit. 70, § 11-306 and require that history, social studies, and United States Government subject matter standards include study of “important historical documents, including the [U.S.] Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Emancipation Proclamation, Federalist Papers and other documents with significant history and heritage of the United States.” The United States Government subject matter standards must also include “the structure and relationship between the national, state, county and local governments and simulations of the democratic process.”

Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the Act requires school districts to offer the U.S. naturalization test at least once per school year, beginning as early as eighth grade at the discretion of the district; provided, any student may retake the exam upon request, and as often as desired, until earning a passing score, which shall be 60 out of 100 questions. Districts must exempt from this requirement a student with a disability whose individualized education program (IEP), consistent with state law, indicates that the student is to be assessed with alternate achievement standards through the Oklahoma Alternative Assessment Program (OAAP).

The Act also requires, beginning with ninth graders in the 2021-2022 school year, that students must pass the U.S. naturalization test in order to graduate from any public high school that is accredited by the State Board of Education.

Please visit the firm’s website to view the signed Act.

RFR attorneys are reviewing this legislation and will be advising clients as to any recommended changes to existing district policies.