



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

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## RED BANNER UPDATE

**Date:** May 12, 2021

**Re:** SB 619

**Signed:** May 5, 2021

**Effective:** July 1, 2021

**Topic:** Revised Eligibility and Optional District-Provided Insurance for Student Interns Under the *AIM Act of 2016*

**Summary:** This Act amends portions of the *Apprenticeships, Internships and Mentorships (AIM) Act of 2016*, specifically OKLA. STAT. 70, § 1210.528–1, and lowers the grade level and age for which students may participate in apprenticeships, internships, and mentorships (“internships”) to permit sophomores age sixteen (16) and older to participate in such internships for credit, except as provided by rules that may be promulgated by the Oklahoma State Board of Education (OSBE).

The Act also permits, not requires, boards of education to obtain liability insurance coverage to protect a student who participates in an internship authorized by the Act, provided that coverage is obtained from a “reliable insurer authorized to do business in this state and shall not exceed the amount that is deemed reasonably necessary in the opinion of the [board].” School boards may not, however, directly or indirectly charge a student or the student’s parent or legal guardian for the cost of providing this insurance coverage. The failure of the board to obtain such insurance coverage on behalf of a student may not be construed as placing any legal liability on it.

Finally, the Act provides that the OSBE may develop rules to determine if these internships are eligible for academic credit toward meeting graduation requirements set forth in OKLA. STAT. tit. 70, § 11-103.6, which school districts should follow once/if promulgated.

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



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