



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

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## RED BANNER UPDATE

**Date:** May 30, 2023

**Re:** SB 26

**Signed:** May 25, 2023

**Effective:** July 1, 2023

**Topic:** **Locker Rooms**

**Summary:** This bill amends existing law (70 O.S. § 1-125) regarding multiple occupancy restroom or changing areas. The law now provides an exception to allow a coach of a sex opposite to that of students in a locker room to enter the room before, during or after a school-sponsored athletic activity if a suitable meeting room or area is not available, and under the following conditions:

- All students present are fully clothed;
- The coach shall be accompanied by at least one additional adult at all times; and
- The coach shall be accompanied by at least one adult of the same sex as the students present, if the coach is not of the same sex of the students in the locker room.

The adult accompanying the coach shall not be a current high school student.

Noncompliance with the new provision as noted above, may result in a school district receiving a 5% decrease in state funding for the fiscal year following the year of noncompliance. The amended law additionally provides that a parent or legal guardian shall have a cause of action against a school district for noncompliance.

For more information on this Act, please visit the firm's website to view the signed Act.

Legal counsel at the firm is currently reviewing this legislation and will be advising clients as to any recommended changes to existing district policies.