

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fourth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2020

HOUSE BILL 2448

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING ARTICLE 10; RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 1, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by adding article 10, to read:

4 ARTICLE 10. SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION

5 15-192. Definitions

6 IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 1. "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

8 2. "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

9 3. "INNOVATION" MEANS A NEW OR CREATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THE EXISTING
10 INSTRUCTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES THAT IS INTENDED TO IMPROVE
11 LEARNING OR ENHANCE ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS.

12 4. "SCHOOL OF INNOVATION" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT HAS SUBMITTED
13 AN INNOVATION PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-192.01 AND THAT THE BOARD
14 HAS APPROVED AS A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION.

15 15-192.01. Schools of innovation: innovation plans:
16 exemptions; revocation

17 A. TO BECOME A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION, A PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL SUBMIT
18 AN INNOVATION PLAN TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

19 B. THE BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INNOVATION
20 PLAN, WHICH, AT A MINIMUM, SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 1. A STATEMENT OF THE SCHOOL'S MISSION AND WHY DESIGNATION AS A
22 SCHOOL OF INNOVATION WOULD ENHANCE THE SCHOOL'S ABILITY TO ACHIEVE ITS
23 MISSION AND IMPROVE LEARNING OR ENHANCE ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
24 STUDENTS.

25 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE INNOVATIVE PRACTICES THE SCHOOL WOULD LIKE
26 TO IMPLEMENT AND A PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

27 3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL'S PROGRAMS, POLICIES OR OPERATIONS
28 THAT WOULD NEED TO CHANGE TO SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT THE INNOVATIVE
29 PRACTICE AND A PLAN FOR HOW THOSE WOULD BE ADDRESSED.

30 4. A DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE THAT IS NOT MORE THAN FIVE
31 YEARS AFTER BOARD APPROVAL OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

32 5. PROOF OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING
33 BOARD OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY THAT BOTH:

34 (a) SUPPORTS THE INNOVATION PLAN AND THE ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION
35 TIMELINE.

36 (b) DESCRIBES THE RESOURCES AND SUPPORT THE SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE
37 FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD OR GOVERNING BODY IN IMPLEMENTING THE INNOVATION
38 PLAN, INCLUDING ANY ALLOWED FLEXIBILITY FROM LOCAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
39 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

40 6. DOCUMENTATION THAT SHOWS MEANINGFUL PARENTAL, EDUCATOR AND
41 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY FOR THE CHANGES IDENTIFIED IN THE
42 INNOVATION PLAN.

43 7. THE FORMATIVE, BENCHMARK AND SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS THAT WILL BE
44 USED TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

1 8. A DESCRIPTION OF THE GOALS, IDENTIFIED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS,
2 IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

3 9. THE LONG-TERM COMMUNITY OUTREACH GOALS AND STAKEHOLDER
4 COMMUNICATION PLANS.

5 10. ANY OTHER MATERIALS THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES.

6 C. IN ITS INNOVATION PLAN, A SCHOOL MAY REQUEST AN EXEMPTION FROM
7 THE INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-901,
8 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1, SUBDIVISION (b), OR ANY RULES OR POLICIES THAT
9 MAY HINDER THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL'S INNOVATION PLAN AND
10 PROPOSE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS. ANY REQUEST FOR AN EXEMPTION SHALL INCLUDE
11 A RATIONALE OF HOW EACH EXEMPTION WILL SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
12 INNOVATION PLAN. A SCHOOL MAY NOT REQUEST EXEMPTIONS FROM ANY RULE OR
13 POLICY RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT ADOPTED
14 PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-741 AND IN ANY STATE OR FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY
15 SYSTEM. THE BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE A PROCESS FOR A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION TO
16 SUBMIT AMENDMENTS TO AN APPROVED INNOVATION PLAN TO REQUEST AN EXEMPTION
17 AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION. A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION IS SUBJECT TO ALL
18 STATUTES, RULES AND POLICIES THAT ARE NOT EXPLICITLY EXEMPTED BY THE BOARD
19 AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION. ANY EXEMPTION THAT THE
20 BOARD GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION APPLIES FOR THE DURATION OF THE
21 INNOVATION PLAN AND INCLUDES ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT OR REDESIGNATION OF
22 AN IDENTIFIED STATE STATUTE, RULE OR POLICY, UNLESS THE SUBSEQUENT
23 AMENDMENT OR REDESIGNATION SPECIFICALLY APPLIES TO A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION.
24 IF A STATUTE HINDERS THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF A SCHOOL'S INNOVATION PLAN
25 AND AN EXEMPTION IS NOT ALLOWED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE SCHOOL MAY
26 REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDE THE STATUTE IN THE EVALUATION PURSUANT
27 TO SECTION 15-192.02, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 5.

28 D. WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER RECEIVING AN INNOVATION PLAN PURSUANT TO
29 SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
30 SHALL TRANSMIT THE INNOVATION PLAN TO THE BOARD WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR
31 APPROVAL OR RESUBMISSION.

32 E. THE BOARD SHALL APPROVE OR REJECT AN INNOVATION PLAN WITHIN
33 SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE BOARD RECEIVES THE INNOVATION PLAN FROM THE
34 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. IF THE BOARD REJECTS THE INNOVATION
35 PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL EXPLAIN IN WRITING THE REASONS FOR REJECTION AND THE
36 SCHOOL MAY RESUBMIT AN AMENDED PLAN AT ANY TIME. IF THE BOARD APPROVES
37 THE INNOVATION PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL SPECIFY IN WRITING WHETHER THE BOARD
38 ALSO APPROVES ANY EXEMPTION REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION C OF THIS
39 SECTION.

40 F. IF THE BOARD APPROVES AN INNOVATION PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL
41 APPROVE THE INNOVATION PLAN FOR AN INITIAL FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. THE BOARD
42 MAY EXTEND THE APPROVAL PERIOD FOR UP TO FIVE ADDITIONAL YEARS IF THE
43 SCHOOL COMPLIES WITH RENEWAL PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD, INCLUDING
44 MEETING ANY PRESCRIBED PERFORMANCE CRITERIA ON EVALUATIONS.

1 G. AT ANY TIME AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OR BASED ON
2 A FINDING OF THE BOARD, THE BOARD MAY REVOKE A SCHOOL'S INNOVATION STATUS
3 IF THE GOALS, PERFORMANCE INDICATORS OR IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES
4 IDENTIFIED IN THE SCHOOL'S APPROVED INNOVATION PLAN ARE NOT MET.

5 15-192.02. Schools of innovation; evaluation; annual report

6 A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO EVALUATE SCHOOLS OF
7 INNOVATION. THE EVALUATION SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

8 1. PERFORMANCE MEASURES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN THIS STATE,
9 INCLUDING MEASURES OF THE FOLLOWING:

10 (a) STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.

11 (b) PERFORMANCE ON FORMATIVE, BENCHMARK AND STATE ASSESSMENTS.

12 (c) HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS.

13 (d) POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS.

14 2. THE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN THIS
15 STATE.

16 3. THE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN
17 THIS STATE RELATING TO PARENTS, TEACHERS AND THE COMMUNITY.

18 4. THE EXEMPTIONS REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-192.01,
19 SUBSECTION C AND THE EXEMPTIONS GRANTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-192.01,
20 SUBSECTION E.

21 5. THE STATUTES THAT HINDERED SCHOOLS IN FULLY IMPLEMENTING
22 INNOVATION PLANS AND FOR WHICH EXEMPTIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED UNDER SECTION
23 15-192.01 AS REPORTED UNDER SECTION 15-192.01, SUBSECTION C.

24 B. IN DEVELOPING THE EVALUATION PLAN PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF
25 THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IDENTIFY BOTH:

26 1. THE PERSON THAT EVALUATES THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION.

27 2. THE DATA THAT SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION MUST SUBMIT TO THE
28 DEPARTMENT.

29 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE THE EVALUATION DATA IN AN ANNUAL
30 REPORT THAT ARTICULATES THE FINDINGS, IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES AND
31 OUTCOMES AND ANY RECOMMENDED STATUTORY CHANGES AND LISTS ALL EXEMPTIONS
32 REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-192.01, SUBSECTION C, ALL EXEMPTIONS
33 GRANTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-192.01, SUBSECTION E AND ALL STATUTES THAT
34 HINDERED SCHOOLS IN FULLY IMPLEMENTING INNOVATION PLANS AND FOR WHICH
35 EXEMPTIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED UNDER SECTION 15-192.01 AS REPORTED UNDER
36 SECTION 15-192.01, SUBSECTION C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THIS REPORT
37 TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
38 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE BOARD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 AND SHALL PROVIDE A
39 COPY OF THIS REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

40 15-192.03. Student protections

41 A. A SCHOOL MAY NOT PENALIZE A STUDENT WHO PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED A
42 SCHOOL OF INNOVATION AND WHO TRANSFERS TO ANOTHER SCHOOL WITHIN THIS
43 STATE, INCLUDING BY EITHER:

44 1. REQUIRING THE STUDENT TO REPEAT COURSEWORK OR CONTENT THAT THE
45 STUDENT HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED MASTERY OF AT THE SCHOOL OF INNOVATION.

1 2. CHANGING ANY GRADE THAT THE STUDENT RECEIVED AT A SCHOOL OF
2 INNOVATION.

3 B. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS AND EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
4 GOVERNING BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES THAT ENSURE BOTH FAIR AND
5 EQUITABLE:

6 1. ADMISSION OF GRADUATES OF SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION OR OTHER
7 GRADUATES WITH NONTRADITIONAL DIPLOMAS AND TRANSCRIPTS TO COMMUNITY
8 COLLEGES AND TO UNIVERSITIES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD
9 OF REGENTS.

10 2. ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID FOR GRADUATES OF
11 SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION OR OTHER GRADUATES WITH NONTRADITIONAL DIPLOMAS AND
12 TRANSCRIPTS.

13 15-192.04. Rules

14 THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT ANY RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS ARTICLE.