An Act relating to schools; providing for recall and removal of school district board of education members; providing for submission of a recall petition; requiring petition to be signed by certain percentage of school district electors; directing the county election board secretary to certify the number of signatures; providing for submission of a recall petition for board members elected by board district; specifying manner of recall elections; permitting candidates to be placed on ballot after petition is submitted; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-107C of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. School district board of education members may be recalled and removed from office in a special election held for that purpose.
which shall be called upon submission of a petition to the secretary
of the county election board.

    B. A petition requesting the recall election of a member of the
board of education of a school district shall be signed by twenty-
five percent (25%) of the school district electors in the school
district, the percentage being applied to the highest number of
voters voting in a regular school district election in the district
in the preceding five (5) years as determined by the secretary of
the county election board, who shall certify the adequacy of the
number of signatures on the petition.

    C. In any school district where the electors of each board
district, rather than the electors of the entire school district,
elect board members to represent that board district, a special
election shall be called upon submission of a petition to the
secretary of the county election board requesting the recall
election and signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the electors in
the board district where the recall election is requested.

    D. Recall elections held pursuant to this section shall be
conducted in the same manner as the election of members of the board
of education for a school district. After the submitted petition is
signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the electors requesting the
recall of a member of the board of education, candidates who meet
eligibility requirements may file to be placed on the ballot for
such office.
SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND ETHICS, dated 02/10/2016 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.