



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Oklahoma Boys Basketball Coaches Association (OBCA)

Statement on Governor Stitt's Proposal to Eliminate the OSSAA

Oklahoma City, OK — The Oklahoma Boys Basketball Coaches Association (OBCA) issues the following statement in response to Governor Stitt's 2026 State of the State address, in which he called for the elimination of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association (OSSAA):

The OBCA stands firmly and unequivocally with the OSSAA. For more than 100 years, the OSSAA has provided stable, fair, and student-centered governance for high school athletics, fine arts, and academic activities across Oklahoma. Proposals such as Senate Bill 1890—which would dismantle the OSSAA and replace it with a politically appointed commission—pose a direct threat to the integrity and consistency of high school activities statewide.

The OBCA's position is clear: the OSSAA must remain the governing body for Oklahoma's high school activities.

The OSSAA is Accountable and Member-Driven

The OSSAA is governed by 482 member schools that voluntarily choose to participate. Its Board of Directors—Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors—is elected by peers who understand the daily realities of Oklahoma schools.

The OSSAA Protects Fair Competition

Policies such as the transfer “link rule” are created and approved by member districts to ensure competitive balance and prevent recruiting abuses. These rules safeguard the integrity of high school sports.

The OSSAA Supports More Than Athletics

Fine arts, academic competitions, speech, and debate all rely on the OSSAA's structure. Eliminating the association without a proven, fully developed replacement would create immediate and widespread disruption for thousands of students.

Educators Must Lead High School Activities

The OBCA believes decisions affecting students should remain in the hands of educators and administrators—not politically appointed bodies removed from day-to-day school operations.

The OBCA urges coaches, educators, parents, and community members to contact their State Legislators and the Governor's Office to advocate for preserving a member-governed system that prioritizes students over politics.

The OSSAA has served Oklahoma students for over a century. The OBCA stands committed to ensuring it continues to do so for generations to come.