



To the Oklahoma Basketball Community and the Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaches Association (OGBCA) family,

In light of the recent calls by Governor Stitt during his 2026 State of the State address to eliminate the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association (OSSAA), the OGBCA stands firmly in support of the association that has safely and fairly governed our state's high school activities for over a century.

While recent legislative proposals like Senate Bill 1890 aim to replace the OSSAA with a politically appointed commission, we believe such a move would undermine the integrity of high school sports.

Why we stand with the OSSAA:

Member-Driven Governance:

The OSSAA is not an "unaccountable" body; it is a member-driven organization governed by the 482 schools that voluntarily choose to join. Its Board of Directors consists of elected school leaders—Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors—chosen by their peers to represent Oklahoma's students.

Fair Competition:

The rules enforced by the OSSAA, including transfer policies like the "link rule," are designed and passed by member school districts to maintain a level playing field and prevent recruiting abuses.

Breadth of Impact:

Beyond the basketball court, the OSSAA oversees fine arts, academic competitions, speech, and debate. Dismantling this structure without a proven replacement would lead to unprecedented chaos for these students as well.

Educator-Led vs. Politically Appointed:

We believe decisions regarding high school athletics should remain in the hands of the educators and administrators "in the trenches" who understand the daily needs of our students, rather than being subject to political appointments.

The OGBCA urges our members and the broader community to contact their State Legislators and the Governor's Office to advocate for the preservation of a member-governed association that prioritizes the best interests of all student-athletes.