

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 43rd Legislature (1991)

SENATE BILL NO. 539

BY: GUSTAFSON and HANEY of the  
SENATE

and

KOUBA and GRIESER of the  
HOUSE

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOLS; AMENDING 70 O.S. 1981,  
SECTIONS 3201, AS LAST AMENDED BY SECTION 3,  
CHAPTER 218, O.S.L. 1990, AND 4423, AS LAST AMENDED  
BY SECTION 8, CHAPTER 218, O.S.L. 1990 (70 O.S.  
SUPP. 1990, SECTIONS 3201 AND 4423), WHICH RELATE  
TO INSTITUTIONS OF THE OKLAHOMA STATE SYSTEM OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION; CHANGING NAME OF EL RENO JUNIOR  
COLLEGE TO REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; DELETING  
CERTAIN TERRITORIAL RESTRICTIONS; STRIKING OBSOLETE  
LANGUAGE; STATING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; PROVIDING  
EXCEPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1981, Section 3201, as  
last amended by Section 3, Chapter 218, O.S.L. 1990 (70 O.S. Supp.  
1990, Section 3201), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3201. The following state educational institutions  
shall be members of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education:

University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Langston University, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Murray State College, Connors State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, Cameron University, Eastern Oklahoma State College, Northeastern Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, University of Central Oklahoma, East Central University, Northeastern State University, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Carl Albert State College, ~~El Reno Junior~~ Redlands Community College, Northern Oklahoma College, Oklahoma City Community College, Rogers State College, Rose State College, Seminole Junior College, Tulsa Junior College, and Western Oklahoma State College.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1981, Section 4423, as last amended by Section 8, Chapter 218, O.S.L. 1990 (70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Section 4423), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4423. A. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are hereby authorized and directed to ~~establish and~~ maintain two-year colleges at El Reno ~~to serve Canadian County and surrounding area~~, which shall be known as the ~~El Reno Junior~~ Redlands Community College, at Poteau ~~to serve LeFlore County and surrounding area~~, which shall be known as the Carl Albert State College, at Seminole ~~to serve Seminole County and surrounding area~~, which shall be known as the Seminole Junior College, at Midwest City ~~to serve Oklahoma County and surrounding area~~, which shall be known as the Rose State College, and in South Oklahoma City ~~to serve Oklahoma County and surrounding area to~~, which shall be known as the Oklahoma City Community College; and, each ~~junior college of said colleges~~ shall be an integral and full-fledged part of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education ~~and shall be entitled to the same privileges and be subject to the same laws as other member institutions of said State System except as expressly provided~~

~~otherwise herein. It is expressly provided as a condition precedent that each junior college must make provision locally for the donation, to the State of Oklahoma, of a suitable site for the college including facilities and other resources of the existing junior colleges, above named.~~

B. ~~It is the intent of the Legislature that all community junior colleges named herein and meeting the standards and criteria of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and receiving budgetary support from the state shall become full-fledged member institutions of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education in order to facilitate and more effectively coordinate their development and service as educational units of the system of public higher education in the state; therefore as of April 15, 1974, any community junior colleges that have not initiated steps to become full member institutions of the State System as outlined herein shall by proclamation of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education be declared to be and shall thereafter function as member institutions of the State System and the State Regents are hereby directed to take such action accordingly. The State Regents shall then inform the Governor of Oklahoma of the action and it shall be his duty to proceed immediately to appoint a Board of Regents to be the governing board of the college as set out in subsection C of this section which shall assume all duties and responsibilities theretofore executed by the Board of Trustees of the college. Any of the aforementioned colleges once becoming state colleges shall be fully funded on the same basis as other state junior colleges as funding is available at the discretion of the State Board of Regents for Higher Education. Any college so becoming Each of said colleges which at the time it became a member of the State System ~~which was~~ at the time of the proclamation operating a technical area school district program to carry out the function of postsecondary technical education for the people of the district shall continue to~~

do so as then operated and in accordance with Section 4410 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and all property acquired by virtue of the technical area school district operation shall remain as property of the technical area school district and be maintained in the custody of the Board of Regents of the ~~junior~~ college acting as the governing board of the technical area school district for use by the postsecondary area district program.

C. ~~After the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have acted to establish~~ For each of the junior colleges above named and identified, there shall be created a separate Board of Regents ~~for each of said junior colleges,~~ and said Board of Regents shall consist of seven (7) members to serve seven-year overlapping terms, with members of said Board to be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the State Senate. Each Board shall have the same powers and duties as the Board of Regents of Tulsa Junior College. Four members of the Board of Regents for the junior colleges located at El Reno, Poteau and Seminole shall be from the county in which said junior college is located. Four members of the Board of Regents for Rose State College and Oklahoma City Community College shall be residents of the original district of each of said junior colleges. With respect to Rose State College and Oklahoma City Community College, it is further provided that the college and its governing Board of Regents shall continue to operate the technical area school district program to carry out the function of postsecondary technical education for the people of the technical education school district as now operated, and in accordance with Section 4410 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. ~~The foregoing constitutes a separate authorization and direction to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to act separately and independently with respect to each of said junior colleges in the manner prescribed.~~

~~D. The other community junior colleges presently receiving state funding shall be entitled to all privileges and be subject to the same laws as other institutions in the State System. Any community junior college presently receiving state funds shall have three (3) years from July 1, 1974, to elect becoming a member of said State System.~~

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4423.2 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education located at El Reno and formerly known as "El Reno Junior College" shall continue at the same location and its official name shall be "Redlands Community College".

B. It is the intent of the Legislature that expendable supplies, including but not limited to letterheads, which on the effective date of this section carry or are labeled with the name "El Reno Junior College" shall be utilized after the effective date of this section until such supplies are depleted. For purposes of this section, "supplies" shall not mean college catalogs and shall not mean signs designating the name of the college.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective September 1, 1991.

43-1-594

WHT