

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 51 By: Campbell

A Resolution directing the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to conduct a study of the Academic Scholars Program; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program was created in 1988 to provide scholarships to outstanding students for up to five years of undergraduate and/or graduate study at institutions of higher education in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, there are three categories, Category I, Category II and Category III, by which a student may qualify for a scholarship pursuant to the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Act, Section 2401 et seq. of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

WHEREAS, to qualify under Category I, a student must receive a designation as a National Merit Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, National Achievement Scholar, other specified national award winner through a combination of test scores, grade point average and high school endorsement or score at or above the upper one-half of one percent on the ACT or SAT test; and

WHEREAS, the upper one-half of one percent is calculated for the student population as a whole and for certain statutory specified subpopulations: male, female, white, black, Hispanic, Native American and Asian; and

WHEREAS, funding has not been sufficient to provide scholarships to all eligible applicants, therefore only students who qualify under Category I have been selected as scholarship recipients; and

WHEREAS, over 2,500 students have received scholarships through this program since its inception in 1988; and

WHEREAS, a record number of Academic Scholarship recipients have been National Merit Scholars; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Senate wants to ensure the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program continues to be available to all qualified and deserving students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are hereby directed to conduct a study of the Academic Scholars Program consisting of a review of the goals, qualifying criteria, including the merits of removing subpopulation requirements, attrition, revenue needed to fund all categories of qualified students and a follow-up on graduates.

THAT the Regents report their findings to the Oklahoma State Senate no later than October 1, 1996.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.