

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1029

By: Matlock

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution relating to creating the College Savings Task Force; stating purpose; providing for membership; stating duties; providing for travel reimbursement; and providing for officers, meetings and staff.

WHEREAS, it is an important function of state government to encourage attendance at the state institutions of higher education and to help ensure the means of obtaining such education; and

WHEREAS, the state is responsible for maintaining the state institutions of higher education which provide state residents with the opportunity to receive a quality higher education; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state to foster public higher education in order to promote a well educated citizenry; and

WHEREAS, tuition costs at public institutions of higher education are difficult for many to afford, especially when changes in the costs are difficult to predict which makes it difficult for individuals and families to plan for the future; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state to explore various means of providing students and their parents assistance in financing postsecondary education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT there is hereby created to continue until July 1, 1998, the College Savings Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force shall be to study and identify effective programs for tuition savings and which encourage and assist students and their parents to save for higher education costs and to make recommendations for legislative or other action needed to assure implementation of effective college savings programs in the state.

THAT the College Savings Task Force shall be composed of sixteen (16) members as follows:

1. The Chancellor of Higher Education or designee;
2. The State Treasurer or designee;
3. The Secretary of Education or designee;
4. The President of the Oklahoma Student Loan Authority or designee;
5. Two individuals who are administrators from institutions of higher education in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
6. Two individuals who are faculty members from an institution of higher education in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
7. Two individuals who are students enrolled in an institution of higher education in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

8. Two individuals who represent the banking or the finance industry, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

9. Two members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

10. Two members of the State Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

THAT the College Savings Task Force shall:

1. Study current savings plans, both public and private, currently available to students in the state;

2. Review federal programs and college savings programs offered in other state;

3. Make recommendations on the implementation of college savings programs in the state.

THAT the members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes from the legislative body which they serve;

2. State agency employees who are members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by their respective agencies for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act; and

3. All other Task Force members shall be reimbursed by their appointing authority for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

THAT the Task Force members shall elect a chair and vice-chair from the legislative members of the Task Force at the first meeting.

The first meeting of the Task Force shall be held no later than September 1, 1997. Subsequent meetings shall be at the call of the chair. Staffing for the Task Force shall be provided by the legislative staff of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

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