

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 1346

By: Snyder and Williams of the
Senate

and

Morgan of the House

[Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and
Technology - funding awards - eligibility - effective
date -
emergency]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 5060.16, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 279, O.S.L. 1995 (74 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 5060.16), is amended to read as follows:

Section 5060.16 The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology, with the advice and consent of the Committee, shall:

1. Establish and operate a state program designed to secure and impartially distribute funds credited to the Research Support Revolving Fund to support professional service contracts for health research projects;
2. Ensure that funding to support health research projects is awarded only on the basis of scientific merit;
3. Design the health research program to ensure the optimum performance of the investigator and the maximum efficiency of the project;
4. Evaluate and approve health research projects to be funded from the Research Support Revolving Fund;
5. Establish a procedure for the referral of proposed health research projects to the Committee for review;

6. Establish procedures for review of proposed health research projects by qualified individuals residing outside this state;

7. Suspend or terminate any professional service contract supporting health research projects for failure by an investigator, institution of higher learning, or nonprofit research institution to comply with the procedures, requirements, or bylaws of the Center; ~~and~~

8. Enter into contracts to ensure the optimum performance of health research investigators and to ensure the maximum efficiency of proposed health research projects; and

9. Assure that for each Oklahoma Health Research Program funding competition at least one-third of the funding for new awards shall be designated for Distinguished Oklahoma Biomedical Scientist Awards. These awards are intended to assist in the recruitment and/or retention of outstanding biomedical researchers and shall provide a minimum of One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00) per year for five (5) years to support the laboratories of said researchers. Distinguished Oklahoma Biomedical Scientist Award recipients shall be approved for funding in accordance with the following order of eligibility:

- a. biomedical scientists that are members of the National Academy of Sciences,
- b. Howard Hughes Investigators receiving Howard Hughes funding at the time of the Oklahoma Health Research Program award, and
- c. National Institutes of Health Merit Award recipients whose Merit Awards or the renewal grants of said awards remain in effect.

If funds are insufficient to fund all members of the lowest category of eligibility for which there are funds available, reviewers, as designated in paragraph 6 shall rank the applicants in that category for funding on the basis of scientific merit. If the

Oklahoma Health Research Committee finds an insufficient number of eligible applicants to utilize the designated monies for Distinguished Oklahoma Biomedical Scientist Awards, the remaining funds shall be used for funding research awards for other categories allowed under the Oklahoma Health Research Program.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 6th day of March, 2000.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2000.

Speaker of the House of Representatives