

**EHB 2532**

**THE STATE SENATE**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2000**

**ENGROSSED**

**House Bill No. 2532**

**As Amended**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 2532 - By: DEUTSCHENDORF and BONNY of the House and WILLIAMS of the Senate.

**[ schools - Oklahoma ESPCoR Advisory Committee - codification - effective date - emergency ]**

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3230.1 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Advisory Committee to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Committee shall be advisory in nature and shall provide recommendations to the Regents, which is the funding agency for the state share of matching requirements for EPSCoR initiatives.

B. The purpose of the Committee shall be, through a partnership of higher education institutions, independent research entities, industry, and state government, to enhance scientific and engineering research and development conducted at universities in

1 the state and thereby to enhance the success of Oklahoma researchers  
2 in federal award competitions.

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3230.2 of Title 70, unless there  
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. The Oklahoma EPSCoR Advisory Committee shall be composed of  
7 the following members, nine of whom shall be ex officio voting  
8 members, three of whom shall be appointed members, and not less than  
9 four of whom shall be selected members. The ex officio members  
10 shall be as follows:

11 1. The Chancellor of Higher Education;

12 2. The president of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of  
13 Science and Technology;

14 3. The chief research administrator, as designated by the  
15 university president, from each of the following institutions:

16 a. the University of Oklahoma - Norman Campus,

17 b. the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center,

18 c. Oklahoma State University,

19 d. the University of Tulsa, and

20 e. a regional university in the State System as  
21 designated by the Committee;

22 4. The chief research administrator, as designated by the  
23 president, from the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation; and

1           5. The EPSCoR Director as designated by the Committee.

2           The appointed members shall be as follows:

3           1. A member of the Governor's staff to be appointed by the  
4 Governor;

5           2. A member of the State Senate to be appointed by the  
6 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

7           3. A member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives to be  
8 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

9           The following members shall be selected by a vote of the  
10 Committee:

11          1. No fewer than two members who represent the private sector,  
12 particularly the business community, with an interest in research  
13 and development; and

14          2. Two members whose contribution will enhance the goals of the  
15 EPSCoR Committee.

16          B. Members selected by a vote of the Committee shall serve  
17 staggered terms of three (3) years. In the first year, the rotation  
18 of the terms shall be decided by random draw.

19          C. Vacancies in Committee membership shall be filled in the  
20 same manner as the original appointment.

21          D. Upon completion of an elected member's term or when an  
22 elected membership vacancy occurs for other reasons, the  
23 cochairpersons of the Committee shall appoint a nominating

1 subcommittee of not less than three Committee members to recommend  
2 individuals for membership. Members shall be appointed by a vote of  
3 the Committee, with a majority of the quorum required for approval.

4 E. The officers of the Committee shall be two cochairpersons,  
5 one of whom shall be the Chancellor for Higher Education and the  
6 other to be selected annually by a vote of the Committee. The  
7 cochairpersons shall appoint a nominating subcommittee of not less  
8 than three members of the Committee to recommend a cochairperson. A  
9 majority of the quorum of the Committee shall be required to approve  
10 a cochairperson.

11 F. Meetings of the Committee shall be held at the call of a  
12 cochairperson or whenever any five members so request. At a minimum  
13 the Committee shall meet quarterly.

14 G. Forty percent (40%) of the total membership shall constitute  
15 a quorum for the transaction of business. No vacancy in the  
16 membership shall impair the right of a quorum. If a member cannot  
17 attend a meeting, that member may designate an alternate  
18 representative. The alternate shall have a voice, but no voting  
19 rights.

20 H. Members of the Committee shall not receive compensation for  
21 serving on the Committee, but shall receive travel reimbursement as  
22 follows:

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

5           2. State agency employees who are members of the Committee  
6 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the performance  
7 of their duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the  
8 State Travel Reimbursement Act; and

9           3. All other Committee members shall be reimbursed for travel  
10 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties by the Oklahoma  
11 State Regents for Higher Education in accordance with the State  
12 Travel Reimbursement Act.

13           SECTION 3.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3230.3 of Title 70, unless there  
15 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16           A. The Oklahoma EPSCoR Advisory Committee shall recommend to  
17 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education research projects  
18 requiring state matching funds and other research and systemic  
19 initiatives consistent with the goals of the Committee.

20           B. The Committee shall have the duty and responsibility of:

21           1. Promoting cooperative research efforts among public and  
22 private universities in Oklahoma;

- 1        2. Promoting private sector involvement in university research
- 2 and encouraging technology transfer;
- 3        3. Promoting human resource development in science and
- 4 engineering within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education;
- 5        4. Appointing the EPSCoR Director; and
- 6        5. Undertaking other efforts as appropriate.

7        SECTION 4.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3230.4 of Title 70, unless there  
9 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10        The Oklahoma EPSCoR Advisory Committee shall submit by July 1,  
11 2001, and each July 1 thereafter, an annual report of its activities  
12 for the preceding year to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
13 Education.

14        SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

15        SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
16 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 3-29-00 - DO  
20 PASS, As Amended.