

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION HCR1004

By: Claunch, Braddock, Kirby  
and Roggow

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution encouraging the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to review its policies on residency for tuition, scholarship and financial aid purposes to assist military dependents; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Oklahoma currently hosts five military installations: Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City/Del City/Oklahoma City; Vance Air Force Base in Enid; Altus Air Force Base in Altus; Fort Sill Army Post in Lawton; and the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant in McAlester; and

WHEREAS, these military installations hold a combined economic impact of \$3.938 billion on the Oklahoma state economy, and employ more than 52,000 military and civilian personnel for an annual payroll in excess of \$1.8 billion; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense estimates that approximately 850,000 military-connected students attend education programs in civilian communities, including those in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense has taken a proactive role in advocating for a quality, consistent education for all military children; and

WHEREAS, due to the unique nature of military families' contribution to the defense of the United States of America, many military-connected students do not have the opportunity to establish and/or maintain residency to qualify for in-state tuition and fee

rates, and to participate in all state scholarship and financial aid programs as residents; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, through its constitutional responsibilities, determine the standards for higher education and set policy for residency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Legislature hereby encourages the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to review its state residency policies for tuition and fees, scholarship, and financial aid purposes to ensure that military dependents:

1. Are not charged out-of-state tuition if they have established residency prior to entering The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, and their families are subsequently stationed out-of-state; and

2. Have the opportunity to participate in all state scholarship and financial aid programs as residents.

THAT the Legislature also requests the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to consider a policy that allows military dependents from families who have been stationed in Oklahoma less than the period of time normally required to establish residency to enter The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education at the in-state rate for tuition and fees.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, each of the institutional boards of regents in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, the president and financial aid officer at each institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, and the appropriate

military officials at Tinker Air Force Base, Vance Air Force Base, Altus Air Force Base, Ft. Sill, and the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant.

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