

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1779

By: Rousselot, Hilliard, Pruett
and Sherrer of the House

and

Easley of the Senate

An Act relating to economic development; enacting the Oklahoma Business Development Park Loan Act; defining terms; authorizing business development park loans to certain eligible public trusts; imposing conditions with respect to loans; providing for reduction of principal amounts; requiring annual performance evaluation and report; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an 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 2121 of Title 62, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Business Development Park Loan Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2122 of Title 62, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act:

1. "Business development park" means real property consisting of at least a one-acre site owned by an eligible public trust;

2. "Eligible public trust" means an entity created pursuant to the provisions of Section 176 of Title 60 of the Oklahoma Statutes having at least one city, town or county as its beneficiary and which owns at least one (1) acre of real property the principal purpose of which is the leasing of such property to a for-profit business enterprise; and

3. "Loan program" means the process described by Section 3 of this act for an eligible public trust to obtain financing for business development park projects involving a reduction of principal outstanding based upon job creation or other economic indicators as provided by law.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2123 of Title 62, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. An eligible public trust may make application to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for a business development park loan.

B. Loans to an eligible public trust pursuant to this section shall not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00).

C. Loans authorized by this section shall have a maturity not to exceed twenty (20) years.

D. The loan shall be repaid through a reduction in the principal balance owed by the eligible public trust according to the following schedule:

1. Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in principal shall be reduced at the end of a fiscal year for each new direct job attributable to the business activity of a for-profit business enterprise whose principal business activity is located within the business development park; or

2. Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in principal shall be reduced at the end of a fiscal year for each new direct job that has been continuous for a period of at least three (3) years and the average wages for which equaled or exceeded one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the average wage in the county in which the business development park is located; or

3. Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in principal shall be reduced at the end of a fiscal year for each new direct job in excess of twenty (20) new direct jobs that have been created as a

result of for-profit business activity within a business development park.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2124 of Title 62, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall audit the performance of loans made pursuant to the Oklahoma Business Development Park Loan Act. The summary of its findings shall be prepared in the form of an annual report which shall be provided to the Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate not later than January 31 each year covering the preceding calendar year.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2005.

SECTION 6. 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 House of Representatives the 16th day of March, 2005.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2005.

Presiding Officer of the Senate