

ENROLLED SENATE  
BILL NO. 1394

By: Paddack, Johnson  
(Constance) and Lawler of  
the Senate

and

Cox, Shelton, Peterson  
(Pam), Wright, Steele,  
Hickman, Glenn, McDaniel,  
Staggs, Lindley, Denney,  
Jackson, Shumate and  
Askins of the House

An Act relating to state government; creating the Health Care Workforce Resources Act; providing short title; creating the Health Care Workforce Resources Center; stating purpose and focus of the center; providing for organization; providing for acceptance of certain funding; creating the Health Care Workforce Resources Board; stating purpose of Board; providing for membership; providing for certain reimbursement; providing for certain support; stating duties; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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 3200.1 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Health Care Workforce Resources Act".

B. There is hereby created the Health Care Workforce Resources Center whose purpose shall be to coordinate, facilitate and communicate statewide efforts to meet supply and demand needs for Oklahoma's health care workforce. The initial focus for the Center shall include health care professionals in short supply including, but not limited to:

1. Nurses;
2. Respiratory therapists;
3. Pharmacists;
4. Imaging technologists;

5. Medical laboratory technologists and technicians;
6. Surgical and scrub technicians;
7. Physical therapists; and
8. Psychiatrists.

C. The Health Care Workforce Resources Center shall further focus on:

1. Data collection to support strategic decisions and policy recommendations, to measure and evaluate efforts over time, and to certify on an ongoing basis:

- a. current health care worker supply and demand,
- b. future supply and demand, and
- c. gap analysis;

2. Education and training to ensure Oklahoma's current education and training systems have the resources and support necessary to produce the number of health care workers needed in both the short and long term;

3. Recruitment to increase the level of awareness among Oklahoma's youth and adults of the opportunities available in health care, thereby increasing the number of individuals entering health careers; and

4. Retention to improve the job satisfaction and retention rates for Oklahoma health care employees.

D. The Health Care Workforce Resources Center shall act as a clearinghouse of information and activities focused on health care workforce supply and demand. The state agencies, programs, task forces, boards and commissions with resources earmarked or dedicated to health care workforce efforts shall coordinate with the Center to streamline resources, with the goal of eliminating duplication of effort.

E. The Health Care Workforce Resources Center may accept funding that includes but is not limited to:

1. Monetary contributions;
2. Contractual arrangements;
3. In-kind services;
4. Federal- and state-appropriated dollars;
5. Private and public foundation grants; and
6. Fee-for-service products.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3200.2 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Health Care Workforce Resources Board whose purpose shall be to govern the Health Care Workforce Resources Center promoting the purposes for which the Health Care Workforce Resources Center was created in the Health Care Workforce Resources Act.

B. 1. The Board shall consist of nineteen (19) members as follows:

- a. two members of the Oklahoma State Senate. One member shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate,
- b. two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives. One member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives,
- c. the Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education or a designee,
- d. the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education or a designee,
- e. the State Superintendent of Public Instruction or a designee,
- f. the Secretary of Health or a designee,
- g. the Commissioner of Health or a designee,
- h. a representative of the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development,
- i. a representative of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, designated by the president of that institution,
- j. a representative of the Office of State Finance, designated by the Director of State Finance, and
- k. a representative of the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, designated by the president of that institution.

2. Six members shall be appointed by the Governor as follows:

- a. one member of a statewide association representing urban and rural hospitals,

- b. one member of a statewide association representing nurses,
- c. one member of a statewide association representing allopathic physicians,
- d. one member of a statewide association representing osteopathic physicians,
- e. one member representing the long-term care industry chosen from a list of at least three names submitted by a statewide association representing urban and rural nursing homes, and
- f. one lay member who shall represent the general public.

3. All designated members shall serve at the pleasure of their designators. The initial appointments of the Governor shall be for the following terms:

- a. the initial term of the member of a statewide association representing urban and rural hospitals shall be for a three-year term,
- b. the initial term of the member of a statewide association representing nurses shall be for a three-year term,
- c. the initial term of the member of a statewide association representing allopathic physicians shall be for a two-year term,
- d. the initial term of the member of a statewide association representing osteopathic physicians shall be for a two-year term,
- e. the initial term of the member representing the long-term care industry shall be for a one-year term, and
- f. the initial term of the lay member representing the general public shall be for a one-year term.

4. After the initial terms, all other terms of members appointed by the Governor shall be for four-year terms. Members appointed by the Governor may be removed by the Governor for cause. A vacancy of an appointed member shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the unexpired portion of the term.

5. The Board shall elect from among its membership a chair and a vice-chair and shall adopt procedures for the governance of its operations. Ten members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Board shall meet at such times as it deems appropriate.

6. Members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties by their

respective legislative house or state agency pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act. Members appointed by the Governor shall be reimbursed by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

7. Until such time as private or public funds become available, administrative support for the Board, including, but not limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of the duties and responsibilities of the Board shall be provided by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Oklahoma Department of Health. All represented agencies shall provide any additional administrative support requested by the Board.

C. The duties of the Health Care Workforce Resources Board shall include, but not be limited to, the hiring of, or contracting for, an Executive Director of the Health Care Workforce Resources Center as private or public funds become available. The Executive Director shall report to the Board and be responsible for the hiring of staff and activities of the Health Care Workforce Resources Center as stated in the Health Care Workforce Resources Act. These activities include contracting for services including, but not limited to, data collection and analysis and Web support. Until such time as private or public funds become available to hire an Executive Director, the Board shall be responsible for activities of the Health Care Workforce Resources Center.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

Passed the Senate the 24th day of May, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of May, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

