

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

HOUSE BILL 2019

By: Cargill

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3218.8, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 4, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 3218.8), which relates to undergraduate resident and nonresident tuition; clarifying statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3218.8, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 4, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 3218.8), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3218.8 A. ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided by law, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are authorized to establish undergraduate resident tuition, nonresident tuition and mandatory fees, which students shall pay as a condition of enrollment, ~~except as otherwise provided by law.~~ The process for establishing tuition and mandatory fees shall incorporate the provisions of Section 3218.14 of this title.

1. At the comprehensive universities the combined average of the resident tuition and mandatory fees, as determined by the State Regents, shall remain less than the combined average of the resident tuition and fees at the state-supported institutions of higher education that are members of the Big Twelve Conference on the effective date of this act. The combined average of the nonresident tuition and mandatory fees, as determined by the State Regents, shall remain less than one hundred five percent (105%) of the combined average of the nonresident tuition and fees at the state-

supported institutions of higher education that are members of the Big Twelve Conference on the effective date of this act.

2. At the regional universities and two-year colleges the combined average of the resident tuition and mandatory fees, as determined by the State Regents, shall remain less than the combined average of the resident tuition and mandatory fees at like-type state-supported institutions of higher education in states determined by the State Regents that include, but are not limited to, those adjacent to Oklahoma. The combined average of the nonresident tuition and mandatory fees, as determined by the State Regents, shall remain less than one hundred five percent (105%) of the combined average of the nonresident tuition and fees at like-type state-supported institutions of higher education in states determined by the State Regents that include, but are not limited to, those adjacent to Oklahoma.

B. In its deliberation on the establishment of resident tuition rates for undergraduate and graduate education, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall balance the affordability of public higher education with the provision of available, diverse and high-quality learning opportunities. In this endeavor the State Regents shall give consideration to the level of state appropriations, the state economy, the per capita income and cost of living, the college-going and college-retention rates, and the availability of financial aid in Oklahoma. For any increase in the tuition rates, the State Regents shall demonstrate a reasonable effort to effect a proportionate increase in the availability of need-based student financial aid. Need-based financial aid shall include, but shall not be limited to, awards for the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program, Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grants, federal need-based financial aid and tuition waivers, and private donations.

C. Students permitted to audit courses shall pay the same resident tuition and nonresident tuition as required of students who enroll for course credit.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2005.

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.

50-1-6151      KB      01/09/05