

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1130

By: Shelton

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution supporting TRIO Programs; memorializing Congress not to cut funding without a thorough study; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs are funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and were initially just three programs. While student financial aid programs help students overcome financial aid barriers to higher education, TRIO Programs help students overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to higher education; and

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs are federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The programs identify qualified disadvantaged youth or adults who are low-income and/or first-generation college students. Participants are selected according to their potential for academic success; and

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs include Educational Talent Search, serving young people in grades six through twelve; Student Support Services, helping students stay in college until they earn their baccalaureate degrees; and Upward Bound, preparing young students for higher education; and

WHEREAS, in Oklahoma in 2004 there were 81 Federal TRIO Programs assisting 27,323 students at a cost of \$24,403,324. There are 27 institutions of higher education hosting TRIO Programs in Oklahoma, as well as four community agencies: the American Indian Resource Center, the Chickasaw Foundation, the Choctaw Nation and QuESTT, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2007 federal budget calls for the elimination of Federal TRIO Programs, Talent Search, and all Upward Bound programs, three of four federally funded college opportunity programs that served 455,000 middle and high school students nationwide in 2005. The proposed federal budget cuts will cost Oklahoma approximately \$16 million, eliminating close to 60 projects serving about 15,000 participants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives fully and completely supports the goals and recognizes the accomplishments of TRIO Programs in Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives memorializes the Congress of the United States of America not to cut funding for or eliminate TRIO Programs without a complete and thorough study of the impact such cuts would have on students, schools, and the educational process.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation and the Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance.

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