

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 3120

By: Jones

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to higher education; amending 70 O.S.  
8 2001, Section 2404, which relates to the Oklahoma  
9 State Regents Academic Scholars Program; updating  
10 statutory language; changing percentage of  
11 scholarship funding which may be awarded to  
12 nonresident students; and declaring an emergency.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 2404, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 2404. A. Scholarships awarded under the Oklahoma State  
17 Regents' Academic Scholars Program shall be awarded to all eligible  
18 applicants without any limitation on the number of scholarships to  
19 be awarded in any year other than the amount of funds available for  
20 the scholarship program and the number of eligible applicants.

21 B. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may, at the  
22 time a scholarship is awarded to a student, set aside in the  
23 Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Trust Fund funds for the  
24 full five-year commitment made to ~~such~~ the eligible scholar. For  
all academic years, students who have previously received academic

1 scholarships under the provisions of this act and who have continued  
2 at all times to fulfill the requirements for eligibility to receive  
3 academic scholarships provided in this act shall be given an  
4 absolute priority for continued financial support by the Oklahoma  
5 State Regents' Academic Scholars Program superior to any students  
6 who are applying for such academic scholarships for the first time.

7 C. In addition to the qualifications specified in Section 2403  
8 of this title, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may  
9 adopt additional criteria for selection and allocation of awards  
10 which may include, but are not limited to, consideration of high  
11 school academic performance and personal interviews. The Oklahoma  
12 State Regents for Higher Education shall annually report on the  
13 number of former Academic Scholars Program participants who stay in  
14 state as compared to those who leave Oklahoma within five (5) years  
15 of leaving the Program. In addition, the Oklahoma State Regents for  
16 Higher Education are hereby authorized to determine a maximum number  
17 of awards or a maximum amount of funding which may go to nonresident  
18 students. ~~Such~~ The maximum limitations shall not exceed ~~twenty-five~~  
19 thirty percent ~~(25%)~~ (30%) of the awards or amount of funding in any  
20 category provided in paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 2403 of  
21 this title.

22 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
23 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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