

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1544

By: Crutchfield of the Senate

4 and

5 Piatt of the House

6  
7  
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 An Act relating to higher education; transferring  
10 governance, supervision, management and control of  
of Trustees for the Ardmore Higher Education Program  
11 to the Regional University System of Oklahoma;  
transferring all interests and obligations of the  
12 Board of Trustees and the Ardmore Higher Education  
Program; requiring assumption of obligations for  
13 tenure and retirement by the Regional University  
System of Oklahoma; requiring certain facilities to  
14 serve as branch campus in Ardmore of East Central  
University; authorizing Regional University System of  
15 Oklahoma to provide resources to branch campus for  
certain purpose; requiring Oklahoma State Regents for  
16 Higher Education to make college credit courses and  
programs available to people of Ardmore and Southern  
17 Oklahoma; requiring establishment of branch campus of  
East Central University at Ardmore; providing for  
18 governance of Ardmore branch campus by Regional  
University System of Oklahoma; providing for lower  
19 division courses and programs to be offered by Murray  
State College with right to defer to East Central  
20 University; prohibiting duplication of certain  
courses and programs; establishing certain advisory  
21 board; providing for membership; stating duties;  
repealing 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3213, which relates  
22 to the Ardmore Higher Education Program; providing  
for codification; providing an effective date; and  
23 declaring an emergency.

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

2 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
3 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3515.1 of Title 70, unless there  
4 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

5 A. The governance, supervision, management and control of the  
6 Ardmore Higher Education Program is hereby transferred from the  
7 Board of Trustees for the Ardmore Higher Education Program to the  
8 Regional University System of Oklahoma, and all interests in real  
9 property, facilities, equipment and appurtenances, state-  
10 appropriated monies and all duties, obligations and liabilities of  
11 the Ardmore Higher Education Program and any and all obligations of  
12 the Board of Trustees of the Ardmore Higher Education Program for  
13 and on behalf of the Ardmore Higher Education Program are  
14 transferred to the Regional University System of Oklahoma.  
15 Obligations for any and all plans for tenure or retirement of  
16 employees of the Ardmore Higher Education Program, either through  
17 the Ardmore Higher Education Program or the Board of Trustees for  
18 the Ardmore Higher Education Program, shall be assumed by the  
19 Regional University System of Oklahoma.

20 B. The facilities of the Ardmore Higher Education Program shall  
21 serve as the branch campus in Ardmore of East Central University.  
22 The Regional University System of Oklahoma may provide resources to  
23 the branch campus in Ardmore of East Central University to maintain  
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1 its facilities in accordance with its function and mission as  
2 provided by law.

3 C. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall make  
4 undergraduate and graduate college credit courses and programs  
5 available to the people of Ardmore and Southern Oklahoma. The  
6 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall provide courses  
7 and programs through a branch campus of East Central University,  
8 which shall be established and located in Ardmore. The branch  
9 campus of East Central University at Ardmore shall be governed by  
10 the Regional University System of Oklahoma and administered through  
11 East Central University.

12 D. Murray State College shall offer and have the right to defer  
13 to East Central University for the offering of all lower division  
14 courses and programs at the branch campus of East Central University  
15 at Ardmore. Lower division courses and programs offered at the  
16 undergraduate level shall not duplicate those offered by Murray  
17 State College at the branch campus of East Central University at  
18 Ardmore.

19 E. The members serving on the Board of Trustees for the Ardmore  
20 Higher Education Program established pursuant to Section 3213 of  
21 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes on the effective date of this act  
22 shall serve as an advisory board to the president of East Central  
23 University. The advisory board shall advise the president of East  
24 Central University on strategic directions for the branch campus of

1 East Central University at Ardmore, including academic programming,  
2 student services, community relations, and institutional  
3 advancement. The advisory board, in coordination with the president  
4 of East Central University, shall establish bylaws and membership of  
5 the advisory board.

6 SECTION 2. REPEALER 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3213, is  
7 hereby repealed.

8 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

9 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
10 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
11 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
12 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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