

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1606

By: Jolley

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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 Academic
9 Scholars Program; increasing certain limitation for
nonresident students; providing an effective date;
and declaring an emergency.

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

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

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

20 B. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may, at the
21 time a scholarship is awarded to a student, set aside in the
22 Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Trust Fund funds for the
23 full five-year commitment made to such eligible scholar. For all
24 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 maximum limitations shall not exceed ~~twenty-five~~
19 ~~percent (25%)~~ thirty-five percent (35%) of the awards or amount of
20 funding in any category provided in paragraph 2 of subsection A of
21 Section 2403 of this title.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

23 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

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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