

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 525

By: Crutchfield of the Senate

and

Ownbey of the House

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3213, which relates to the Ardmore Higher Education Program; authorizing the board of trustees to establish and maintain certain plans and benefits for its employees; authorizing the board of trustees to establish certain accounts with the State Treasurer; 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 3213, is amended to read as follows:

Section 3213. A. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall make educational program resources at institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education available to the people in the Ardmore area. The State Regents shall draw upon the educational programs of institutions best suited to provide the kind of educational programs needed and shall, in pursuance of Article XIII-A of the Constitution of Oklahoma and appropriate statutes, set the standards of education as they relate to the programs operated to assure that credits earned by students will be fully accepted at institutions of higher education to which the students may transfer the credit to apply toward an educational study objective. The State Regents may establish appropriate funds and accounts, including a revolving fund, in the Office of State Finance for servicing the fiscal operations of the Ardmore Higher Education Program. Such funds and accounts shall be subject to the direct

supervision, management, and control of the board of trustees created by subsection B of this section. The people locally shall provide suitable physical plant accommodations for the program.

B. There is hereby created a board of ten (10) trustees to be appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate to serve as the administrative agency for the Ardmore Higher Education Program. Such board shall be a body corporate and shall adopt and use an official seal. The board so created shall have the authority to submit a budget annually to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, administer monies budgeted by the State Regents, negotiate agreements with institutions for courses and programs of study approved by the State Regents, provide educational facilities, recommend courses and programs to be offered by participating institutions, select a chief executive officer whose duties include the general coordination of approved programs and services and the selection of other appropriate nonteaching personnel. The board of trustees is authorized to expend all monies allocated to the Ardmore Higher Education Program as may be necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities imposed upon the board by this section. For purposes of acquiring and taking title to real and personal property from sources other than state appropriations, the board is authorized to enter into contracts and to adopt rules and regulations pertaining to such actions. The initial nine (9) members shall serve their terms for the period to which originally appointed, in numbered positions having dates of expiration identical to the dates of expiration of the original appointments:

Position No. 1. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1986, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 2. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1987, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 3. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1988, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 4. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1989, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 5. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1990, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 6. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1991, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 7. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1992, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 8. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1993, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

Position No. 9. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1994, and each nine (9) years thereafter.

The tenth member shall be appointed to Position No. 10, the term of office of which shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1996, and each nine (9) years thereafter.

The board shall organize and elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary annually.

C. The board of trustees may establish and maintain plans for tenure and retirement of its employees and for payment of deferred compensation of such employees and may provide hospital and medical benefits, accident, health and life insurance and annuity contracts for such employees and pay for all or part of the cost thereof with funds available for payment of its operating expenses.

D. The board may establish with the State Treasurer such accounts as are necessary to operate retirement, deferred compensation or benefits plans for its employees. Such accounts shall be revolving funds not subject to fiscal year limitations. Funds deposited in such accounts may be invested in any of the types of instruments in which the State Treasurer is authorized by law to invest.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

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.

Passed the Senate the 2nd day of March, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of April, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives