

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE BILL 663

By: Paddack

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to higher education; requesting the
8 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to
9 establish certain combined degree program; stating
10 purpose; providing program components; specifying
11 certain requirements; providing for codification; and
12 providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2641 of Title 70, unless there
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. The Oklahoma State Legislature requests the Oklahoma State
18 Regents for Higher Education to establish a combined baccalaureate
19 and doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy degree program to
20 address the shortage of primary care physicians in rural areas of
21 this state.

22 B. Such program should provide for an application process
23 targeting high school seniors from rural areas. Based on
24 established criteria set by the State Regents, students accepted
into the program should be guaranteed admission to a program of

1 undergraduate study and medical school. Students should be required
2 to apply for any and all scholarships and financial aid for which
3 they are qualified and the program should provide a scholarship
4 award package to meet basic educational costs not covered by other
5 aid. The program should provide a specialized curriculum,
6 supplemental mentoring, tutoring, and academic advisement assistance
7 to ensure student success.

8 C. Students accepted into the program shall be required to
9 commit to practicing medicine as a primary care physician in a rural
10 community in this state for an equivalent number of years of
11 scholarship assistance received by the student. Students who do not
12 fulfill the terms of their commitment shall repay amounts received
13 from the program scholarship awards.

14 D. The State Regents shall establish an equivalent number of
15 program slots each year for the University of Oklahoma College of
16 Medicine and the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic
17 Medicine.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

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20 52-1-718 KM 3/6/2009 5:57:50 AM

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