

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2443

By: DeWitt and Vaughan of the  
House

3 and

4 Fields of the Senate  
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7 An Act relating to higher education; directing the  
8 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to make  
9 educational resources available in Ponca City; naming  
10 the program the University Center at Ponca City;  
11 requiring the State Regents to set educational  
12 programs and standards; granting Northern Oklahoma  
13 College exclusive authority to offer certain courses  
14 and programs; providing for establishment of funds  
15 and accounts; requiring physical plant to be provided  
16 locally; creating a board of trustees; stating  
17 authority of the board; providing for membership;  
18 providing for election of officers; authorizing the  
19 board to provide and pay the costs of certain  
20 employee benefits; authorizing the board to establish  
21 accounts with the State Treasurer; making accounts  
22 revolving funds; providing for investment of funds;  
23 and providing for codification.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3213.1 of Title 70, unless there  
21 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall make  
23 educational program resources at institutions in The Oklahoma State  
24 System of Higher Education available to the people in the Ponca City

1 area. This program shall be known as the University Center at Ponca  
2 City.

3 B. The State Regents shall draw upon the educational programs  
4 of institutions best suited to provide the kind of educational  
5 programs needed and shall, in pursuance of Article XIII-A of the  
6 Constitution of Oklahoma and appropriate statutes, set the standards  
7 of education as they relate to the programs operated to assure that  
8 credits earned by students will be fully accepted at institutions of  
9 higher education to which the students may transfer the credit to  
10 apply toward an educational study objective. Northern Oklahoma  
11 College shall have exclusive authority to offer all lower division  
12 courses and programs at the University Center at Ponca City as  
13 listed in the current college catalog of Northern Oklahoma College.

14 C. The State Regents may establish appropriate funds and  
15 accounts, including a revolving fund, in the Office of State Finance  
16 for servicing the fiscal operations of the University Center at  
17 Ponca City. The funds and accounts shall be subject to the direct  
18 supervision, management, and control of the board of trustees  
19 created by subsection D of this section. The people locally shall  
20 provide suitable physical plant accommodations for the University  
21 Center at Ponca City.

22 D. There is hereby created a board of nine (9) trustees to be  
23 appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate to  
24 serve as the administrative agency for the University Center at

1 Ponca City. The board shall be a body corporate and shall adopt and  
2 use an official seal. The board so created shall have the authority  
3 to submit a budget annually to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
4 Education, administer monies budgeted by the State Regents, provide  
5 educational facilities, recommend courses and programs to be offered  
6 by participating institutions, select a chief executive officer  
7 whose duties include the general coordination of approved programs  
8 and services and the selection of other appropriate nonteaching  
9 personnel. The board of trustees is authorized to expend all monies  
10 allocated to the University Center at Ponca City as may be necessary  
11 to perform the duties and responsibilities imposed upon the board by  
12 this section. For purposes of acquiring and taking title to real  
13 and personal property from sources other than state appropriations,  
14 the board is authorized to enter into contracts and to adopt rules  
15 and regulations pertaining to such actions. The initial nine (9)  
16 members shall serve their terms for the period to which originally  
17 appointed, in numbered positions having dates of expiration  
18 identical to the dates of expiration of the original appointments:

19       Position No. 1. The term of office of one member shall expire  
20 on June 30, 2013, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

21       Position No. 2. The term of office of one member shall expire  
22 on June 30, 2014, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

23       Position No. 3. The term of office of one member shall expire  
24 on June 30, 2015, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

1 Position No. 4. The term of office of one member shall expire  
2 on June 30, 2016, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

3 Position No. 5. The term of office of one member shall expire  
4 on June 30, 2017, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

5 Position No. 6. The term of office of one member shall expire  
6 on June 30, 2018, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

7 Position No. 7. The term of office of one member shall expire  
8 on June 30, 2019, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

9 Position No. 8. The term of office of one member shall expire  
10 on June 30, 2020, and each nine (9) years thereafter; and

11 Position No. 9. The term of office of one member shall expire  
12 on June 30, 2021, and each nine (9) years thereafter.

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

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

21 F. The board may establish with the State Treasurer any  
22 accounts as are necessary to operate retirement, deferred  
23 compensation or benefits plans for its employees. The accounts  
24 shall be revolving funds not subject to fiscal year limitations.

1 Funds deposited in the accounts may be invested in any of the types  
2 of instruments in which the State Treasurer is authorized by law to  
3 invest.

4 Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of March, 2012.

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7 Presiding Officer of the House of  
8 Representatives

9 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

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12 Presiding Officer of the Senate