

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 2677

By: Shumate, Pittman and
Johnson

7
8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to schools; defining terms;
10 prohibiting state educational institution from taking
11 certain actions or enforcing certain policies;
12 providing for standing; providing for cause of
13 action; providing for codification; and providing an
14 effective date.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3247 of Title 70, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. As used in this section only:

20 1. "Benefits" shall include, without limitation:

21 a. recognition,

22 b. registration,

- 1 c. the use of facilities of the state educational
2 institution for meetings or speaking purposes,
3 d. the use of channels of communication of the state
4 educational institution, and
5 e. funding sources that are otherwise available to any
6 other student group in the state educational
7 institution; and

8 2. "State educational institution" means the state higher
9 educational institutions that are within The Oklahoma State System
10 of Higher Education and shall also include the student government of
11 a state higher educational institution.

12 B. No state educational institution shall take any action or
13 enforce any policy that would deny a religious student group any
14 benefit available to any other student group based on the religious
15 student group's requirement that its leaders or members adhere to
16 its sincerely held religious beliefs or standards of conduct.

17 C. Any affected student group or any of its members may enforce
18 this section by bringing a private cause of action for damages,
19 declaratory judgment, and/or injunctive relief in state or federal
20 court.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2012.

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23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER TECH,
24 dated 03/01/2012 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.