SENATE FLOOR VERSION
February 23, 2012
As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 1111 By: Fields of the Senate

and

Denney of the House

An Act relating to higher education; directing the State Regents for Higher Education to make certain programs available to people of Ponca City; designating the certain program as the University Center at Ponca City; directing Regents to provide appropriate programs; directing Regents to set standards; requiring certain earned credits be transferrable; allowing Regents to establish certain funds in Office of State Finance; providing for supervision of funds; providing oversight to be provide by a board of trustees; requiring people of Ponca City to provide certain facilities; creating a board of trustees; directing the Governor to appoint members with advice and consent of Senate; declaring board a body corporate; allowing board to submit a budget to the Regents; providing certain duties of the board; authorizing board to spend certain monies; providing for the terms of appointment; providing for the election of certain officers; allowing board to establish certain plans for tenure and retirement of employees; allowing board to establish certain accounts necessary to operate certain plans; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3216.1 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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 of the Ponca City area. This program shall be known as the University Center at Ponca City. The State Regents for Higher Education shall draw upon the educational programs of institutions best suited to provide appropriate educational programs and shall, pursuant to Article X-IIIA of the Oklahoma State Constitution and the Oklahoma State Statutes, set the standards of education as they relate to the programs operated to ensure that credits earned by students can be transferred and will be accepted and applied to a course of study at institutions of higher education within the state of Oklahoma. **Northern Oklahoma College shall have the exclusive authority to offer all lower division courses and programs at the University Center at Ponca City as listed in the college catalog of Northern Oklahoma College.** The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may establish appropriate funds and accounts, including a revolving fund, in the Office of State Finance for servicing the fiscal operations of the University Center at Ponca City. The funds and accounts shall be subject to the direct supervision, management, and control of the board of trustees created in subsection B of this

section. The people of the Ponca City area shall provide suitable physical plant accommodations for the University Center at Ponca City.

B. There is hereby created a board of nine (9) trustees to be appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate to serve as the administrative agency for the University Center at Ponca City. The board shall be a body corporate and shall adopt and use an official seal. The board 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 University Center at Ponca City 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, 2013, and each nine (9) years thereafter;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Position No. 9. The term of office of one member shall expire on the 30th day of June, 2021, 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, 2012.

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.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-13-12 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.