

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

HOUSE BILL 1469

By: Roberts (Dustin)

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to small business development; making legislative findings; making appropriation for purposes of establishing small business development centers; stating source of appropriation; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds that small businesses comprise over ninety-six percent (96%) of all businesses in Oklahoma and create eighty-three percent (83%) of all net new jobs in the state. The Oklahoma Small Business Development Center Network (Center) assists small businesses by providing high-quality counseling, training, and research services to entrepreneurs and small businesses in the areas of business startup, retention, and expansion through its counseling centers. Funded in part by a cooperative agreement with the United States Small Business Administration, the Center requires state matching funds and an affiliation with a university or community college.

1 The Center assists entrepreneurs and small businesses with  
2 accessing capital, developing management capabilities, and building  
3 financial skills to make their businesses thrive. In addition to  
4 providing confidential one-on-one counseling by qualified business  
5 professionals free of charge, the network also offers a variety of  
6 in-class workshops, seminars, and online training.

7 The purpose of this act is to appropriate funds to the Center to  
8 further its mission to create sustainable economic development  
9 through counseling, training, and research services to small  
10 businesses and entrepreneurs.

11 SECTION 2. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma State  
12 Regents for Higher Education from any monies not otherwise  
13 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for  
14 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the sum of Zero Dollars  
15 (\$0.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary for the effective  
16 operation of the small business development center located on the  
17 campus at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

19 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
20 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

23  
24 55-1-5508 MAH 01/21/15