

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 403

By: Loveless

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to science, technology, engineering
8 and mathematics education; creating the STEM Academy
9 Pilot Program; directing the State Regents for Higher
10 Education and the State Board of Career and
11 Technology Education to consult with the Department
12 of Commerce; providing terms for certain agreement
13 with a corporation; providing guidelines; providing
14 for creation of certain forms; providing for
15 participation of certain students; providing for
16 payment of costs; providing for acceptance of gifts;
17 requiring promulgation of rules; creating the STEM
18 Academy Pilot Program Revolving Fund; specifying
19 sources of the fund; providing for expenditures;
20 providing for codification; providing an effective
21 date; and declaring an emergency.

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1 B. The pilot program shall be implemented to provide students
2 in a public high school in this state the opportunity to learn
3 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) skills and
4 earn a certificate through a technology center school or an
5 associate's degree through a two-year institution within The
6 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

7 C. The State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board
8 of Career and Technology Education shall consult with the Department
9 of Commerce to identify a corporate partner, located near the public
10 high school, that is in need of skilled workers. To be accepted as
11 a corporate partner for the pilot program, the corporation must
12 agree to:

- 13 1. Assist in the coordination of work-based learning curriculum
14 sequence;
- 15 2. Provide workplace learning experiences for students;
- 16 3. Match students with professional mentors to provide one-on-
17 one guidance; and
- 18 4. Give hiring preference to graduates for jobs.

19 D. The STEM Academy Pilot Program shall operate according to
20 the following guidelines:

- 21 1. Students in twelfth grade shall apply to participate in the
22 academy on forms published by the State Regents for Higher Education
23 in consultation with the State Board of Career and Technology
24 Education;

1 2. The State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board
2 of Career and Technology Education shall select a technology center
3 site and a two-year institution of higher education to participate
4 in the academy;

5 3. The State Regents for Higher Education, the State Board of
6 Career and Technology Education and faculty and staff at the
7 participating technology center site and two-year institution of
8 higher education shall develop a curriculum based on the workforce
9 needs of the corporate partner, taking into consideration the
10 availability of online curriculum;

11 4. The State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board
12 of Career and Technology Education shall work in consultation toward
13 the goal of awarding participating students certificates through a
14 technology center school or associate's degrees through a two-year
15 institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education

16 E. Subject to available funding, the State Regents for Higher
17 Education and the State Board of Career and Technology Education
18 shall pay for all reasonable costs associated with the STEM Academy
19 Pilot Program.

20 F. The State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board
21 of Career and Technology Education may receive gifts, donations,
22 grants or endowments for the purposes of implementing the STEM
23 Academy Pilot Program.
24

1 G. The State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board
2 of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate all rules and
3 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

4 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.409 of Title 70, unless
6 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

7 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund
8 for the State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board of
9 Career and Technology Education to be designated the "STEM Academy
10 Pilot Program Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund,
11 not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all
12 monies received from state or federal funds, any gifts, donations,
13 grants or endowments received for the purpose of implementing the
14 STEM Academy Pilot Program. All monies accruing to the credit of
15 the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by
16 the State Regents for Higher Education and the State Board of Career
17 and Technology Education for the purpose of implementing the STEM
18 Academy Pilot Program. Expenditures from the fund shall be made
19 upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
20 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
21 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

22 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

23 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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