

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4   ENGROSSED SENATE  
5   BILL NO. 1627

By: Pugh of the Senate

and

Echols of the House

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8  
9       [ higher education - Workforce Development Revolving  
10      Fund - purpose of fund - codification - effective  
11      date -

emergency ]

12  
13 ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

14       SECTION 1.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
15      in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3210.1 of Title 70, unless there  
16      is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17       A.   There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving  
18      fund for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to be  
19      designated the "Workforce Development Revolving Fund". The fund  
20      shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations,  
21      and shall consist of all monies received by the State Regents from  
22      state appropriations. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund  
23      are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the  
24      State Regents for the purpose of implementing the provisions of

1 subsection C of this section. Expenditures from the fund shall be  
2 made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims  
3 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of  
4 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

5 B. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, the Legislature  
6 shall appropriate Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00) to the  
7 Workforce Development Revolving Fund created pursuant to subsection  
8 A of this section.

9 C. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall award  
10 funds from the Workforce Development Revolving Fund created pursuant  
11 to subsection A of this section to institutions within The Oklahoma  
12 State System of Higher Education that increase the number of degrees  
13 granted to fulfill workforce needs in critical occupation areas.  
14 For the purposes of this section "critical occupation areas" are  
15 those areas identified by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma  
16 Department of Commerce that are in high demand and are projected to  
17 have positive future growth.

18 D. 1. One-third of the funds appropriated pursuant to  
19 subsection B of this section shall be allocated to institutions  
20 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education that increase  
21 the number of degrees granted in the area of nursing. The increase  
22 in the number of degrees shall be calculated based on the number of  
23 degrees granted in the area of nursing during the 2019-2020, 2020-  
24 2021, and 2021-2022 academic years.

1        2. One-third of the funds appropriated pursuant to subsection B  
2 of this section shall be allocated to institutions within The  
3 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education that increase the number  
4 of degrees granted in the area of engineering. The increase in the  
5 number of degrees shall be calculated based on the number of degrees  
6 granted in the area of engineering during the 2019-2020, 2020-2021,  
7 and 2021-2022 academic years.

8        3. One-third of the funds appropriated pursuant to subsection B  
9 of this section shall be allocated to institutions within The  
10 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education that increase the number  
11 of degrees granted in the area of teaching. The increase in the  
12 number of degrees shall be calculated based on the number of degrees  
13 granted in the area of teaching during the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and  
14 2021-2022 academic years.

15        E. 1. Beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year, the Oklahoma  
16 State Regents for Higher Education shall award from the Workforce  
17 Development Revolving Fund created pursuant to subsection A of this  
18 section an amount equal to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for  
19 each degree in the areas of nursing, engineering, and teaching  
20 granted by an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher  
21 Education above the average number of degrees granted by each  
22 institution in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 academic  
23 years.  
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1        2. Beginning in the 2024-2025 academic year and biennially  
2 thereafter, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall  
3 recalculate the average number of degrees granted by each  
4 institution in the areas of nursing, engineering, and teaching for  
5 the previous three academic years, which shall be used as the basis  
6 for the granting of awards.

7        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

8        SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
9 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
10 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
11 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER TECH,  
14 dated 04/04/2022 - DO PASS, As Amended.  
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