

OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE  
CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE REPORT

May 19, 2021

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

SB639

By: Pugh et al of the Senate and Baker and Dollens of the House

Title: Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program; requiring certain survey; requiring submission of certain report. Effective date.


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together with Engrossed House Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

1. That the House recede from all Amendments.
2. That the attached Conference Committee Substitute be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,


SENATE CONFEREES:



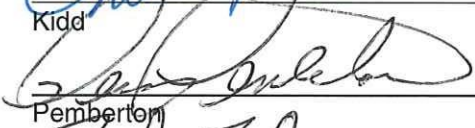
Pugh

Dossett (J.A.)

Dossett (J.J.)



Kidd



Pemberton



Taylor

HOUSE CONFEREES:

Conference Committee on Higher Education and CareerTech

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 639

By: Pugh, Stephens, Bullard and  
Bergstrom of the Senate

and

Baker and Dollens of the  
House

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Higher Learning  
Access Program; amending Section 1, Chapter 297,  
O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2606), which  
relates to return of awarded funds for certain  
reason; directing the Oklahoma State Regents for  
Higher Education to administer certain survey to  
certain students; directing the State Regents to  
submit certain report by certain date; providing  
contents of report; providing for codification; and  
providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 297, O.S.L.  
2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2606), is amended to read as  
follows:

Section 2606. A. If a student withdraws from a class in which  
he or she has received an award from the Oklahoma Higher Learning  
Access Program, the awarded funds shall be returned to the Oklahoma

1 Higher Learning Access Program. The provisions of this subsection  
2 shall only apply to awarded funds when a student withdraws prior to  
3 the end of the add/drop period for the session in which the student  
4 is enrolled.

5 B. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall  
6 administer a survey to students who receive an Oklahoma Higher  
7 Learning Access Program award and who withdraw from an institution  
8 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, a private  
9 institution of higher learning located within this state and  
10 accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of this title or a technology  
11 center school before completing a degree or certificate program.  
12 The survey shall gather information on the reasons for withdrawal,  
13 the barriers to completion of a degree or certificate program and  
14 the future plans of the students.

15 C. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall  
16 promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

17 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2607 of Title 70, unless there  
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 Beginning December 31, 2022, and each December 31 thereafter,  
21 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall submit to the  
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives an annual report on the impact of the Oklahoma  
24 Higher Learning Access Program, also known as Oklahoma's Promise,

created pursuant to Sections 2601 et seq. of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The report shall include:

A. 1. Year-to-year cohort retention and five-year graduation rates of all students enrolled in institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education compared to the year-to-year cohort retention and five-year graduation rates of students who receive Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program awards who are enrolled in institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. The data shall include the degree programs in which the students are enrolled.

2. Year-to-year cohort retention and five-year graduation rates of students who receive Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program awards who are enrolled in private institutions of higher learning located within this state and accredited pursuant Section 4103 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The data shall include the degree programs in which the students are enrolled.

3. Certificate attainment rates of all students enrolled in technology center schools compared to the certificate attainment rates of students who receive Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program awards who are enrolled in technology center schools. The data shall include the career areas in which the students are enrolled.

B. The financial impact and enrollment impact of the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program on two-year and four-year

1 institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,  
2 private institutions of higher learning located within this state  
3 and accredited pursuant Section 4103 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma  
4 Statutes and technology center schools.

5 C. Data on Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program participants  
6 who graduate from an institution of higher education within The  
7 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or a private institution  
8 of higher learning located within this state and accredited pursuant  
9 Section 4103 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes or who attain a  
10 certificate from a technology center school, including:

11 1. The number of participants who are residents of the state  
12 one year after graduation or certificate attainment; and

13 2. The industry or career area in which the participant is  
14 employed.

15 D. Data from surveys completed pursuant to the provisions of  
16 subsection B of Section 2606 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

17 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.  
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