

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1776

By: Hilbert of the House

3 and

4 Pugh of the Senate

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7 [Semiquincentennial of the United States - Oklahoma
8 Semiquincentennial Commission - report -
9 Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund - codification -
10 emergency]
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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 500 of Title 53, unless there is
18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Semiquincentennial
20 Commission until June 30, 2027.

21 B. The duties of the Commission shall be as follows:

22 1. Be the point of contact for state and national organizations
23 and events related to the Semiquincentennial of the United States;
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1 2. Develop programs and plans for the official observance of
2 the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 2026,
3 as marked by the Declaration of Independence in 1776; and

4 3. Cooperate with the United States Semiquincentennial
5 Commission and various state agencies, boards, commissions,
6 departments, and political subdivisions in order to execute
7 commemorative events and to implement educational activities,
8 events, and celebrations related to the Semiquincentennial of the
9 United States.

10 C. The Commission shall be composed of twenty-five (25)
11 members. The members shall serve as follows:

12 1. Five members appointed by the Governor as follows:

- 13 a. one who shall be a member with experience in the study
14 and documentation of the history of Latino communities
15 in Oklahoma,
- 16 b. one who shall be a member with experience in the study
17 and documentation of the history of the Black
18 community in Oklahoma,
- 19 c. one who shall be a member with experience in the study
20 and documentation of the history of American Indian
21 communities in Oklahoma,
- 22 d. one who shall be a current fifth-grade teacher
23 currently certified to teach in Oklahoma with
24 experience teaching United States history,

1 e. one who shall be a secondary teacher currently
2 certified to teach United States history in Oklahoma;

3 2. Five members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
4 Oklahoma House of Representatives, one appointee from each of the
5 five congressional districts;

6 3. Five members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore
7 of the Oklahoma State Senate, one appointee from each of the five
8 congressional districts;

9 4. Ten voting ex officio members shall be appointed as follows:

10 a. the Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve as
11 chairperson, or a designee,

12 b. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical
13 Society, who shall serve as vice-chair, or designee,

14 c. the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce,
15 or designee,

16 d. the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or
17 designee,

18 e. the Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for
19 Higher Education, or designee,

20 f. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Arts Council,
21 or designee,

22 g. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and
23 Recreation Department, or designee,
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1 h. the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, or
2 designee,

3 i. the Regent of the Oklahoma Society of the Daughters of
4 the American Revolution, and

5 j. the President of the Oklahoma Society of the Sons of
6 the American Revolution.

7 D. Commission members may be removed for cause. Whenever a
8 vacancy on the Commission occurs by death, resignation, or
9 otherwise, the appointing authority shall fill the same by
10 appointment, and the appointee shall hold office during the
11 unexpired term. Each member shall hold office until a successor has
12 been appointed.

13 E. All appointments to the Commission shall be made no later
14 than August 1, 2023. The Commission shall hold its first meeting no
15 later than September 1, 2023. The Commission shall be staffed by
16 the Oklahoma Historical Society. All appropriate agencies of state
17 government shall provide assistance to the Commission upon request
18 of the Commission.

19 F. A quorum of thirteen members shall be required to conduct
20 official business of the Commission. The Commission may establish
21 subcommittees to effectuate the purpose of the Commission. The
22 Commission shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.

23 G. Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for
24 serving on the Commission but shall receive travel reimbursement for

1 necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
2 duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the State
3 Travel Reimbursement Act.

4 H. The Commission shall be authorized to:

- 5 1. Employ personnel;
- 6 2. Contract for services; and
- 7 3. Accept gifts, grants, and donations which shall be deposited
8 into the Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund, created in Section 2 of
9 this act.

10 I. On or after June 30, 2027, any remaining supplies or
11 property of the Commission shall transfer to the Oklahoma Historical
12 Society.

13 J. No later than March 1, 2024, the Commission shall
14 electronically submit a report to the Governor, President Pro
15 Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
16 Representatives to include the following information:

- 17 1. Mission statement of the Commission;
- 18 2. Goals of the Commission;
- 19 3. List of proposed activities;
- 20 4. List of milestones along with applicable dates for executing
21 the proposed activities; and
- 22 5. Projected budget for planned activities and private
23 fundraising goals.

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 501 of Title 53, unless there is
3 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund
5 for the Oklahoma Historical Society to be designated the
6 "Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing
7 fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of
8 all monies received from legislative appropriations, private
9 donations, gifts, and grants. All monies accruing to the credit of
10 the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by
11 the Oklahoma Semiquincentennial Commission for the purposes of the
12 Commission. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants
13 issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by
14 law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise
15 Services for approval and payment. The Semiquincentennial Revolving
16 Fund shall sunset on June 30, 2027. Any remaining monies in the
17 fund shall transfer to the Historical Society Revolving Fund,
18 created in Section 1.10 of Title 53 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

19 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health or 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.

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 8th day of March, 2023.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

5 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2023.

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8 Presiding Officer of the Senate