

HB3077 POLPCS1 Dell Kerbs-SW
1/29/2026 10:24:41 am

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB3077 _____ Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____ Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu
thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Amendment submitted by: Dell Kerbs

Adopted: _____

Reading Clerk

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 PROPOSED POLICY
4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 3077

7 By: Kerbs

8 PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
10 Section 2604, which relates to awards for the
11 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program; requiring
12 fifty percent of fees to be awarded to eligible
13 students; providing an effective date; and declaring
14 an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 2604, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 2604. A. Subject to the availability of funds, an
19 amount equivalent to the nonguaranteed resident tuition and fifty
20 percent (50%) of fees for which an eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning
21 Access Program student is obligated at an institution of The
22 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall be awarded by
23 allocation from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Trust Fund.

24 B. Subject to the availability of funds, for each eligible
Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program student enrolled at a

1 private institution of higher learning located within this state and
2 accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of this title, the Oklahoma
3 State Regents for Higher Education shall award from the Oklahoma
4 Higher Learning Access Trust Fund an amount equivalent to the amount
5 of resident tuition for which the student would be eligible and
6 fifty percent (50%) of fees for which the student would be obligated
7 to pay if the student were enrolled in a comparable program at a
8 comparable institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher
9 Education. Comparability shall be determined by the State Regents.

10 C. Subject to the availability of funds, an amount equivalent
11 to the tuition and fifty percent (50%) of fees for any eligible
12 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program student enrolled in a public
13 postsecondary vocational-technical program or course for the purpose
14 set forth in Section 2602 of this title shall be awarded by
15 allocation from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Trust Fund.
16 Provided, such allocation shall not exceed the amount a student
17 would have received for comparable enrollment at a two-year
18 institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

19 D. 1. An award allowed by this section shall not be allowed
20 for courses or other postsecondary units taken in excess of the
21 requirements for completion of a baccalaureate program or taken more
22 than five (5) years after the student's first semester of
23 postsecondary enrollment. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
24 Education may award the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program

1 benefits for courses of postsecondary units taken more than five (5)
2 years after the student's first semester of postsecondary enrollment
3 only in hardship circumstances; provided, however, no Oklahoma
4 Higher Learning Access Program participant may receive benefits
5 beyond a cumulative time period of five (5) years.

6 2. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may award
7 the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program benefits for a student's
8 first semester or other academic unit of postsecondary enrollment
9 taken more than three (3) years after the student graduates from
10 high school or completes an educational program equivalent to high
11 school graduation as authorized in subsection A of Section 2603 of
12 this title or after the student turns twenty-one (21) years of age
13 as authorized in subsection B of Section 2603 of this title if the
14 student is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the
15 Reserve Corps of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the
16 Oklahoma National Guard, and is ordered to active duty or active
17 duty for special work or training and due to the duty commitment the
18 student is unable to enroll prior to the end of the three-year
19 period or before the student reaches twenty-one (21) years of age.

20 The period shall be extended by the length of the term of duty.

21 3. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall
22 establish a maximum limit on the number of courses or other
23 postsecondary units to which Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program
24 benefits will apply.

1 E. Benefits awarded under the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access
2 Program shall be awarded to all eligible applicants without any
3 limitation on the number of awards in any year other than the amount
4 of funds available for the program and the number of eligible
5 applicants. Subject to the provisions of subsection F of this
6 section, if funds are not sufficient to provide awards for all
7 eligible applicants, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
8 shall make awards on the basis of need. Provided, the Oklahoma
9 State Regents for Higher Education shall take into consideration
10 other grants and scholarships received by an eligible applicant when
11 making awards.

12 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may, at the
13 time an award is made on behalf of an Oklahoma Higher Learning
14 Access Program student, set aside in the Oklahoma Higher Learning
15 Access Trust Fund funds for the full commitment made to such Higher
16 Learning Access Program student. For all academic years, students
17 who have previously received awards under the provisions of the
18 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Act, Section 2601 et seq. of this
19 title, and who have continued at all times to fulfill the
20 requirements for eligibility to receive awards provided pursuant to
21 this program shall be given an absolute priority for continued
22 financial support by the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program
23 superior to any students who are applying for such benefits for the
24 first time.

1 G. Beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, an award allowed
2 by this section shall not include an amount for payment of remedial
3 noncredit-earning courses taken by an eligible Oklahoma Higher
4 Learning Access Program student.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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

10 60-2-15986 SW 01/26/26 |

11 Commented [1]: BDERIV