

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1270

By: Nice

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; creating the Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality; providing for membership, appointment, terms, removal, vacancies, and reimbursement; providing certain administrative support; establishing powers and duties; establishing the Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality Revolving Fund; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 13001 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality. The Commission shall be appointed as follows:

1. Three members shall be appointed by the Governor;

2. Three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

3. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

4. Four members shall be appointed by the Oklahoma Legislative Black Caucus.

1       B. 1. The members appointed by the Governor shall serve an  
2 initial term of one (1) year, and subsequently a term of three (3)  
3 years, commencing upon the date that the previous appointee's term  
4 expired.

5       2. The members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
6 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve  
7 an initial term of two (2) years, and subsequently a term of three  
8 (3) years, commencing upon the date that the previous appointee's  
9 term expired.

10       3. The members appointed by the Oklahoma Legislative Black  
11 Caucus shall serve for a term of three (3) years commencing upon the  
12 date that the previous appointee's term expired.

13       4. Each member shall serve no more than three terms. Each  
14 member shall only serve two consecutive terms and shall be inactive  
15 for a period of one (1) year prior to serving the maximum three-term  
16 limit.

17       C. In making such appointments, consideration shall be given to  
18 making the membership broadly representative of the geographic areas  
19 of this state and the racial and ethnic groups residing in this  
20 state.

21       D. Each member shall hold office until the successor of the  
22 member is appointed and has qualified. A member appointed to fill a  
23 vacancy occurring before the expiration of a term of a member who  
24 resigned or is removed from the Commission for cause shall be

1 appointed for the remainder of the term of the member whose office  
2 has been vacated.

3 E. A member of the Commission may be removed by the appropriate  
4 appointing authority for cause.

5 F. Members of the Commission shall receive no salary but shall  
6 be entitled to travel reimbursement as provided by the State Travel  
7 Reimbursement Act from funds available to the appropriate appointing  
8 authority.

9 G. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall  
10 provide staff support to the Oklahoma Commission on Race and  
11 Equality and make arrangements for a suitable meeting space for the  
12 Commission as needed.

13 H. The initial chair shall be appointed by the Oklahoma  
14 Legislative Black Caucus, with the approval of the Governor,  
15 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of  
16 Representatives. After the initial chair's first term ends, the  
17 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall name the chair of the  
18 Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality, and the Speaker of the  
19 House of Representatives shall name the vice chair. Any other  
20 officers deemed necessary shall be elected from among the members at  
21 the first meeting of the Commission. Thereafter, at the first  
22 meeting of each fiscal year, the Commission shall elect a chair, a  
23 vice chair, and such other officers deemed necessary to conduct the  
24 business of the Commission from among its members. A majority of

1 the members present shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of  
2 conducting the business of the Commission. The Commission shall  
3 meet at least once every three (3) months and at such other times as  
4 called by the chair or by a majority of the Commission.

5 I. The Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality shall have the  
6 power and duty to:

7 1. Advise on equality issues relating to racial discrimination  
8 and bias, state agencies and employees, communities, organizations,  
9 and businesses of this state which desire the service of the  
10 Commission;

11 2. Monitor legislation to determine whether legislation is  
12 discriminatory toward one race or ethnicity or whether the race or  
13 ethnicity of an individual would have an effect on the enforcement  
14 of the legislation;

15 3. Act as a resource and a clearinghouse for research on issues  
16 related to racial discrimination and bias;

17 4. Act as a resource in any state appointments to commissions  
18 and boards for diversity;

19 5. Conduct meetings and seminars within the state as  
20 appropriate to support the goals and duties of the Commission; and

21 6. Electronically submit an annual report to the Governor, the  
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives on its activities. The report may include  
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1 recommendations concerning needed legislation or regulatory change  
2 relating to racial discrimination and bias.

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 13002 of Title 74, unless there  
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
7 for the Office of Management and Enterprise Services to be  
8 designated the "Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality Revolving  
9 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal  
10 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the  
11 Office of Management and Enterprise Services from all gifts and  
12 donations provided for the purpose of supporting the work of the  
13 Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality. All monies accruing to  
14 the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted  
15 and expended by the Director of the Office of Management and  
16 Enterprise Services on behalf of the Oklahoma Commission on Race and  
17 Equality for the purpose provided for in this section. Expenditures  
18 from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State  
19 Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the  
20 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for  
21 approval and payment.

22 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.  
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