

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 4362

By: Hill, Baker, McDugle,
Phillips and Dollens of the
House

3
4 and

5 Garvin of the Senate
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8 An Act relating to economic development; defining
9 terms; creating the Oklahoma Center for the
10 Advancement of Science and Technology Intern
11 Partnership STEM Workforce Pipeline Program;
12 authorizing Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of
13 Science and Technology to administer program;
14 providing for competitive internship funding for
15 applicant organizations; requiring applicant
16 organizations to submit certain information;
17 requiring applicant organizations meet certain
18 requirements; requiring Board to make certain
19 findings before awarding funds; authorizing Oklahoma
20 Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology
21 to promulgate rules; providing for codification;
22 providing an effective date; and declaring an
23 emergency.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5060.44 of Title 74, unless
21 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. As used in this section:
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1 1. "Applicant organization" means an Oklahoma-based entity that
2 is a nonprofit research foundation or private enterprise of special
3 importance to the Oklahoma economy; and

4 2. "Eligible student" means an individual currently enrolled in
5 an undergraduate or graduate program at an institution of higher
6 education who is majoring in a science, technology, engineering, and
7 mathematics (STEM) based discipline including, but not limited to,
8 natural sciences, computer science, materials science, engineering,
9 biomedical, biotechnical, data analytics, finance, mathematics, or a
10 support area related to building successful Oklahoma high tech
11 companies.

12 B. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Center for the
13 Advancement of Science and Technology Intern Partnership for STEM
14 Workforce Pipeline Program to be administered by the Oklahoma Center
15 for the Advancement of Science and Technology under the governance
16 of the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development
17 Board.

18 C. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the Oklahoma
19 Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology may award
20 competitive internship funds, through professional service
21 contracts, to applicant organizations to hire qualified student
22 interns to participate in innovative industry projects.

23 D. To qualify for Program internship funds, the applicant
24 organization must provide:

1 1. Documentation verifying that not less than fifty percent
2 (50%) of the total direct cost of the proposed project will be
3 provided by sources other than the Oklahoma Center for the
4 Advancement of Science and Technology and other state-appropriated
5 money. Such sources may be in the form of salary, cash, nonstate
6 grant funds, and other sources of funding as defined by the Oklahoma
7 Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology;

8 2. A description of the potential commercial application of and
9 the industrial sectors that will likely benefit from the project and
10 the potential to enhance employment opportunities in Oklahoma;

11 3. An itemized research budget, timeline, and research
12 methodology; and

13 4. Any other information that may be required by the Board.

14 E. The Board shall award professional service contracts after
15 it determines the applicant organization:

16 1. Provides a beneficial and meaningful intern experience which
17 includes exposure to real-world application of technology and
18 innovation activities;

19 2. Involves projects leading to innovation, new knowledge, or
20 technology that will benefit the applicant organization;

21 3. Has a reasonable probability to enhance employment
22 opportunities within Oklahoma;

23 4. Is technically sound, will produce a measurable result, and
24 provide a positive impact to the applicant organization; and

1 5. Does not involve market surveys or research activities that
2 create fundamental or basic information which lack the potential for
3 reasonably short-term commercialization.

4 F. Based upon the information submitted by the applicant
5 organization, external peer review, and such additional
6 investigation as the staff of the Center shall make, the Board may
7 approve such professional service contracts after the Board finds
8 that:

9 1. The proposed project is research that leads to innovation,
10 new knowledge, or technology and is not training or technical
11 assistance for business firms;

12 2. The project has a reasonable probability to enhance
13 employment opportunities within the state; and

14 3. The project is technically sound and will produce a
15 measurable result.

16 G. The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and
17 Technology shall promulgate rules necessary to implement and
18 administer the Program authorized in this section.

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

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

3 Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of March, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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