

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 SENATE BILL NO.668

By: Pugh

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Office of Management and  
8 Enterprise Services; creating the Entrepreneurs in  
9 Residence Program; stating purpose and goals;  
10 directing OMES to select certain agencies to develop  
11 certain program and a strategic statewide plan for  
12 implementation; providing for certain funding; making  
13 appropriation subject to budgetary limitations;  
14 providing for codification; and providing an  
15 effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5010 of Title 74, unless there  
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 The Entrepreneurs-in-Residence Program (EIR) is hereby created  
21 in the Office of Management and Enterprise Services. The EIR  
22 Program shall be designed to bring highly successful entrepreneurs  
23 and business professionals to work with governmental officials and  
24 agency staff who desire to share advice and experience as a way to  
25 streamline agency bureaucracy and to make governmental practices  
26 more efficient and helpful to persons launching their own

1 entrepreneurial business ventures in this state. In developing the  
2 EIR Program, the OMES shall select the eleven highest qualifying  
3 state agencies based upon their experience and ability to deal with  
4 the public and their basic governmental functions in areas such as  
5 business development and support, occupational licensing, business  
6 tax regulations, forming corporations or partnerships, technology,  
7 providing public services, training and education, or developing or  
8 offering rehabilitation services. The top agencies selected to  
9 serve initially shall develop a statewide strategic plan to  
10 implement the EIR Program throughout state government and identify  
11 sources of funding for entrepreneurs including, but not limited to,  
12 venture capital sources, corporate investments, opportunities for  
13 limited partners investments, partnerships, grants, and methods to  
14 generate funding sources within state government. The goals of the  
15 EIR Program shall be to:

16 1. Spark innovative thinking within state government agencies  
17 to spur business development and jobs;

18 2. Identify obstacles and resolve bureaucracy red-tape or  
19 blocks to job creation and entrepreneurial business development or  
20 regulation;

21 3. Identify inefficient and duplicative government programs  
22 that negatively impact entrepreneurs trying to start or expand a  
23 business;

1 4. Provide a point of contact within the participating agency  
2 and serve as a visible mentor and advocate for entrepreneurs;

3 5. Provide outreach to entrepreneurs, businesses and the public  
4 sector;

5 6. Recommend ways to improve or streamline government  
6 operations that impact business or job development;

7 7. Facilitate meetings and forums to educate entrepreneurs on  
8 programs and government regulations;

9 8. Provide technical assistance or mentorship to entrepreneurs  
10 in navigating government programs and requirements; and

11 9. Recommend ways to simplify government for easier public  
12 access and more responsiveness to the public's needs.

13 The Legislature may appropriate funds as initial seed money for  
14 the development of the EIR Program, subject to budgetary  
15 limitations. Any such funds shall be deposited in an account within  
16 the administration of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
17 Services. The OMES may promulgate rules for the EIR Program  
18 implementation and enforcement of the strategic statewide plan, as  
19 necessary.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

21  
22 57-1-1666 NP 2/15/2019 12:36:47 PM  
23  
24  
25