

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 4154

6 By: Goodwin

7 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

8 An Act relating to the Tulsa Reconciliation Education
9 and Scholarship Trust; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
10 Sections 2621 and 2623, which relate to
11 administration of the Trust; modifying qualifying
12 income limit; modifying provisions related to number
13 of scholarships; providing an effective date; and
14 declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 2621, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 2621. There is hereby created the Tulsa Reconciliation
19 Education and Scholarship Program. The purpose of the program is to
20 provide a scholarship award to residents of the Tulsa School
21 District, which was greatly impacted both socially and economically
22 by the civil unrest that occurred in the City of Tulsa during 1921.
23 Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, or as soon thereafter as
24 practicable, and subject to the availability of funds, the program
shall each year make scholarships available to as many as feasible

1 up to three hundred scholarships to qualified residents of the Tulsa
2 School District, who meet the criteria set forth in Sections 2623
3 and 2624 of this title, and who are intending to pursue studies at
4 an institution of higher education in The Oklahoma State System of
5 Higher Education or a private institution of higher education, or
6 who are intending to pursue studies in a postsecondary career
7 technology education program. The scholarship shall be an amount of
8 not more than the equivalent of the average amount of resident
9 tuition for which an eligible Tulsa Reconciliation Education and
10 Scholarship Program participant enrolled at an institution in The
11 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or a postsecondary career
12 technology education program, whichever is applicable, is obligated
13 to pay. The scholarship shall be paid as provided for in Section
14 2625 of this title. The further purpose of this program is to
15 establish and maintain a variety of educational support services
16 whereby residents who qualify for the program will be prepared for
17 success in postsecondary endeavors.

18 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 2623, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 2623. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
21 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may annually award a
22 maximum of three hundred full-time-equivalent scholarships for the
23 Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Program to residents
24 of the Tulsa School District.

1 B. To qualify for a scholarship, an applicant shall satisfy the
2 following criteria:

3 1. The family income of the applicant from taxable sources is
4 not more than ~~Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00)~~ One Hundred
5 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) per year. The Free
6 Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may used to verify
7 family income;

8 2. The applicant attended a Tulsa public school where seventy-
9 five percent (75%) or more of the students enrolled in the school
10 qualify for the free and reduced lunch program; and

11 3. The applicant resides in a census block area within the
12 Tulsa School District where thirty percent (30%) or more of the
13 residents are at or below the poverty level established by the
14 United States Bureau of the Census.

15 C. The Regents ~~may~~ shall consider as a factor, when determining
16 the order of preference of applicants, whether an applicant is a
17 direct lineal descendant of a person who resided in the Greenwood
18 Area in the City of Tulsa between April 30, 1921, and June 1, 1921.
19 If the Regents use descent as a preference factor, it shall be
20 applied to all applicants regardless of race. The applicants shall
21 be required to present verifiable documentation of their lineage.
22 The Oklahoma Historical Society shall verify the authenticity and
23 accuracy of the documentation submitted by an applicant and shall
24

1 establish the boundaries of the Greenwood Area. Verifiable
2 documentation shall include, but not be limited to the following:

3 1. Family records including family bibles, vital records,
4 correspondence, memoirs, journals, diaries, unrecorded deeds,
5 diplomas, certificates, or testimonials;

6 2. Public records including censuses, government records,
7 military records, pensions, land bounty records, passport
8 applications, passenger lists, original grants, naturalization or
9 immigration records, records of entry, or state, province, or local
10 records; or

11 3. Institutional records including church records, cemetery
12 records and inscriptions, education institutions, insurance records,
13 or societies and fraternal organizations.

14 D. The Regents shall promulgate rules establishing the
15 application requirements for the program and the system for
16 evaluating applications based on the preference factors.

17 E. Applicants shall also meet the eligibility criteria
18 established in Section 2624 of this title.

19 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall also
20 be authorized to annually award scholarships for the Tulsa
21 Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Program to two students at
22 each of the high schools in the Tulsa School District for the
23 purpose of preserving awareness of the history and meaning of the
24 civil unrest that occurred in Tulsa in 1921. The following

1 provisions shall apply to the scholarship provided in this
2 subsection:

3 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection B of this
4 section, eligibility for the scholarships awarded pursuant to this
5 subsection shall be:

- 6 a. enrollment in the appropriate high school,
- 7 b. family income of the applicant from taxable sources
8 not to exceed ~~Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00)~~
9 One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) per
10 year,
- 11 c. the awards made pursuant to this subsection shall be
12 as specified in subsection C of this section,
- 13 d. satisfaction of the criteria specified in Section 2624
14 of this title, and
- 15 ~~d.~~ e. any other relevant criteria determined by the Oklahoma
16 State Regents for Higher Education;

17 2. The State Regents shall involve the administration of the
18 Tulsa School District in the selection process;

19 3. The award shall be limited to a one-year full-time-
20 equivalent period. Following successful completion of such award,
21 recipients who meet the criteria provided in subsection B of this
22 section shall be eligible to apply and be considered for continued
23 participation in the full Tulsa Reconciliation Education and
24 Scholarship Program. Any student subsequently awarded such

1 scholarship shall have the duration of the scholarship provided
2 pursuant to this subsection deducted from the limits set in
3 subsection D of Section 2625 of this title;

4 4. The award may only be funded with state funds appropriated
5 to the Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Trust Fund and
6 income therefrom, and shall be made subject to the availability of
7 such funds; and

8 5. The awards made pursuant to this subsection shall be
9 included within the maximum number of scholarships specified in
10 subsection A of this section.

11 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

12 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

16

17 58-2-10705 MJ 02/21/22

18

19

20

21

22

23

24