

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE BILL 4015

By: Conley

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to education; permitting certain
8 complaints to be filed with the Attorney General's
9 Office of Civil Rights Enforcement; authorizing
10 Office to receive, investigate, hear, and issue
11 orders on complaints; amending 25 O.S. 2021, Section
12 1501, which relates to the powers of the Attorney
13 General's Office of Civil Rights Enforcement;
14 modifying powers of the Office; providing for
15 codification; and providing an 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 9001 of Title 70, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. A complaint of an education civil rights violation or
21 discrimination may be filed with the Attorney General's Office of
22 Civil Rights Enforcement by anyone who believes that a public school
23 or institution of higher education in the state has discriminated
24 against someone on the basis of race, color, national origin,
religion, sex, age, genetic information, or disability.

1 B. The Attorney General's Office of Civil Rights Enforcement
2 shall be authorized to receive, investigate, hear, and issue orders
3 on, complaints of discrimination or other education civil rights
4 violations filed pursuant to subsection A of this section.

5 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 25 O.S. 2021, Section 1501, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 1501. A. Within the limitations provided by law, the
8 Attorney General's Office of Civil Rights Enforcement has the
9 following additional powers:

10 1. To promote the creation of local commissions on human
11 rights, and to contract with individuals and state, local and other
12 agencies, both public and private, including agencies of the federal
13 government and of other states;

14 2. To accept public grants or private gifts, bequests, or other
15 payments;

16 3. To receive, investigate, seek to conciliate, hold hearings
17 on, and pass upon complaints alleging violations of Section 1101 et
18 seq. of this title;

19 4. To furnish technical assistance requested by persons subject
20 to this act to further compliance with Section 1101 et seq. of this
21 title or an order issued thereunder;

22 5. To make provisions for technical and clerical assistance to
23 an advisory committee or committees appointed in accordance with
24 paragraph (b) of Section 953 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

1 6. To require answers to interrogatories, under the procedures
2 established by Section 3233 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
3 compel the attendance of witnesses, examine witnesses under oath or
4 affirmation, and require the production of documents in connection
5 with complaints filed under Section 1101 et seq. of this title, said
6 powers to be exercised only in relation to areas directly and
7 materially related to the complaint;

8 7. To hear, and issue orders on, complaints involving state
9 government agencies and departments, including public schools and
10 institutions of higher education in accordance with Section 1 of
11 this act, on the same basis as complaints involving private
12 employers; ~~and~~

13 8. To provide technical assistance and public information to
14 assist in preventing and eliminating discriminatory housing
15 practices; and

16 9. To promulgate rules as necessary to implement the provisions
17 of Section 1101 et seq. of this title.

18 B. The Attorney General shall:

19 1. At least annually, publish a written report recommending
20 legislative or other action to carry out the purposes of Section
21 1101 et seq. of this title as it relates to housing discrimination;

22 2. Make studies relating to the nature and extent of
23 discriminatory housing practices in this state; and
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1 3. Cooperate with and, as appropriate, may provide technical
2 and other assistance to federal, state, local, and other public or
3 private entities that are formulating or operating programs to
4 prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

5 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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