Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 229
Version: CCR
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Author: Sen. Montgomery
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Bill Analysis

SB 229 creates the Redbud School Funding Act. The measure provides that, in fiscal year 2022, the first \$65 million raised from the 7% gross tax on medical marijuana sales shall be apportioned to the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund (59.23%), the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (34.62%), and the Oklahoma State Department of Health for drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs (6.15%). Surplus collections raised from the tax shall be apportioned to the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury. Additionally, the measure provides that sales taxes apportioned to the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund shall not exceed the state sales tax generated by medical marijuana sales in the preceding fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2023 and each year thereafter. Additionally, the measure clarifies that except as explicitly authorized by state law, a charter school shall not be eligible to receive state-dedicated, local, or county revenue.

The measure directs the State Board of Education to disburse redbud school grants annually from the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund to public schools and eligible charter schools in a manner outlined in the measure. The State Department of Education shall consider each eligible charter school as separate from the school district that sponsors it when making these calculations. Eligible charter schools shall not include a charter school sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board. The SDE is authorized to reserve not more than 0.5% of the funds for the purpose of administrating the fund. The Department is directed to create a dedicated page on its website listing annual redbud school grant recipients and to provide the Chair of the House Appropriations and Budget Committee and the Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee an estimate of the upcoming year's redbud school grant allocation.

CCR Changes

The Conference Committee Report for SB 229 substitutes the engrossed language with the language described above.

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