

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 12, 2023

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1776

By: Hilbert of the House

5 and

6 Pugh of the Senate

7  
8 [ Semiquincentennial of the United States - Oklahoma  
9 Semiquincentennial Commission - report -  
Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund - codification -  
10 emergency ]

11  
12 ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 500 of Title 53, unless there is  
15 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Semiquincentennial  
17 Commission until June 30, 2027.

18 B. The duties of the Commission shall be as follows:

19 1. Be the point of contact for state and national organizations  
20 and events related to the Semiquincentennial of the United States;

21 2. Develop programs and plans for the official observance of  
22 the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 2026,  
23 as marked by the Declaration of Independence in 1776; and  
24

1        3. Cooperate with the United States Semiquincentennial  
2 Commission and various state agencies, boards, commissions,  
3 departments, and political subdivisions in order to execute  
4 commemorative events and to implement educational activities,  
5 events, and celebrations related to the Semiquincentennial of the  
6 United States.

7        C. The Commission shall be composed of twenty-five (25)  
8 members. The members shall serve as follows:

9        1. Five members appointed by the Governor as follows:

- 10        a. one who shall be a member with experience in the study  
11                and documentation of the history of Latino communities  
12                in Oklahoma,
- 13        b. one who shall be a member with experience in the study  
14                and documentation of the history of the Black  
15                community in Oklahoma,
- 16        c. one who shall be a member with experience in the study  
17                and documentation of the history of American Indian  
18                communities in Oklahoma,
- 19        d. one who shall be a current fifth-grade teacher  
20                currently certified to teach in Oklahoma with  
21                experience teaching United States history,
- 22        e. one who shall be a secondary teacher currently  
23                certified to teach United States history in Oklahoma;
- 24

1        2. Five members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the  
2 Oklahoma House of Representatives, one appointee from each of the  
3 five congressional districts;

4        3. Five members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
5 of the Oklahoma State Senate, one appointee from each of the five  
6 congressional districts;

7        4. Ten voting ex officio members shall be appointed as follows:

- 8            a. the Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve as
- 9                    chairperson, or a designee,
- 10           b. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical
- 11                    Society, who shall serve as vice-chair, or designee,
- 12           c. the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce,
- 13                    or designee,
- 14           d. the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or
- 15                    designee,
- 16           e. the Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for
- 17                    Higher Education, or designee,
- 18           f. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Arts Council,
- 19                    or designee,
- 20           g. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and
- 21                    Recreation Department, or designee,
- 22           h. the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, or
- 23                    designee,
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- 1           i.     the Regent of the Oklahoma Society of the Daughters of  
2                 the American Revolution, and  
3           j.     the President of the Oklahoma Society of the Sons of  
4                 the American Revolution.

5           D.    Commission members may be removed for cause. Whenever a  
6   vacancy on the Commission occurs by death, resignation, or  
7   otherwise, the appointing authority shall fill the same by  
8   appointment, and the appointee shall hold office during the  
9   unexpired term. Each member shall hold office until a successor has  
10   been appointed.

11          E.    All appointments to the Commission shall be made no later  
12   than August 1, 2023. The Commission shall hold its first meeting no  
13   later than September 1, 2023. The Commission shall be staffed by  
14   the Oklahoma Historical Society. All appropriate agencies of state  
15   government shall provide assistance to the Commission upon request  
16   of the Commission.

17          F.    A quorum of thirteen members shall be required to conduct  
18   official business of the Commission. The Commission may establish  
19   subcommittees to effectuate the purpose of the Commission. The  
20   Commission shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.

21          G.    Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for  
22   serving on the Commission but shall receive travel reimbursement for  
23   necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
24

1 duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the State  
2 Travel Reimbursement Act.

3 H. The Commission shall be authorized to:

4 1. Employ personnel;

5 2. Contract for services; and

6 3. Accept gifts, grants, and donations which shall be deposited  
7 into the Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund, created in Section 2 of  
8 this act.

9 I. On or after June 30, 2027, any remaining supplies or  
10 property of the Commission shall transfer to the Oklahoma Historical  
11 Society.

12 J. No later than March 1, 2024, the Commission shall  
13 electronically submit a report to the Governor, President Pro  
14 Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
15 Representatives to include the following information:

16 1. Mission statement of the Commission;

17 2. Goals of the Commission;

18 3. List of proposed activities;

19 4. List of milestones along with applicable dates for executing  
20 the proposed activities; and

21 5. Projected budget for planned activities and private  
22 fundraising goals.

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1       SECTION 2.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified

2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 501 of Title 53, unless there is  
3 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4       There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
5 for the Oklahoma Historical Society to be designated the  
6 "Semiquincentennial Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing  
7 fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of  
8 all monies received from legislative appropriations, private  
9 donations, gifts, and grants. All monies accruing to the credit of  
10 the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by  
11 the Oklahoma Semiquincentennial Commission for the purposes of the  
12 Commission. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants  
13 issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by  
14 law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
15 Services for approval and payment. The Semiquincentennial Revolving  
16 Fund shall sunset on June 30, 2027. Any remaining monies in the  
17 fund shall transfer to the Historical Society Revolving Fund,  
18 created in Section 1.10 of Title 53 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
24 April 12, 2023 - DO PASS