STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2118 By: Kannady

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7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to militia; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 21, which relates to the establishment of the Oklahoma Military Department; modifying Adjutant General's duties; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 24; which relates to the appointment and eligibility of the Adjutant General; modifying eligibility requirements; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 25, which relates to the rank of the Adjutant General; adding a compensation guideline; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 26, which relates to authority and duties of the Adjutant General; adding authority to arm members; adding ability to accept donations for Oklahoma National Guard programs; adding authority as chief over the fire protection and police units under the Oklahoma Military Departments; amending Section 1, Chapter 74, O.S.L. 2022 (44 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 233.10a), which relates to the Oklahoma Military Department technology hardware or software; exempting federal programs from Information Services Division requirements; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 243, which relates to the rules and regulations over the Oklahoma Military Department; modifying a compensation regulation; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 815, which relates to the exercise of nonjudicial punishment; modifying certain titles; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 821, which relates to convening of court-martial; establishing guidelines for convening of court-martial by federal officials; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 875, which relates to restoration under a court-martial sentence; modifying Governor's authority to reappoint a dismissed officer or member; establishing procedure for pay eligibility during court-martial sentence; amending 44 O.S. 2021,

Section 905, which relates to forger; establishing definition and penalty for forgery; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 912, which relates to drunkenness and other incapacitation offenses; modifying references; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 912a, which relates to wrongful use and possession of a controlled substance; prohibiting the use of marijuana by Oklahoma military forces; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 928b, which relates to domestic violence; establishing penalties for spousal abuse and intimate partner violence by members of the Oklahoma Militia; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 934, which relates to general offenses; encompassing all specifically enumerated offenses in Section 934 of Title 10 of the United States Code; amending 44 O.S. 2021, Section 937, which relates to the explanation of articles; modifying timeframe to explain articles; adopting the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, as the Oklahoma State Manual for Courts-Martial; establishing the "Benajmin T. Walkingstick National Guard Complex" building; repealing 44 O.S. 2021, Section 940b, which relates to military publications; establishing guidelines for convening of court martial by federal officials; creating the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Act; providing short title; defining terms; creating the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Program to provide tuition assistance to certain eligible members; providing for amount of assistance subject to availability of funding; limiting assistance to certain number of years; allowing establishment of certain cap; prohibiting assistance for courses taken in excess of certain requirements; providing for eligibility; providing eligibility retention requirements; providing application process; allowing denial of continued assistance for failure to meet certain requirements; requiring repayment of assistance for failure to meet certain requirement; providing for calculation of repayment amount; allowing for application of hardship waiver; directing certain notification on available funding; providing for promulgation of rules and regulations; directing coordination of rules and regulations; creating the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Revolving Fund; specifying source of fund; providing for expenditures; providing purpose of fund; providing for transfer of benefits for

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dependents; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 21, is amended to read as follows:

Section 21. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma is hereby established and shall be under the command and control of the Governor as Commander in Chief, with the Adjutant General as the executive and administrative head thereof. The Military Department shall be constituted of the state military forces, as defined by Section 801 of this title, and is hereby organized into a joint headquarters which shall be identified as the joint forces headquarters. The joint forces headquarters shall be jointly staffed by Army National Guard and Air National Guard personnel who, under the authority and direction of the Adjutant General, shall support and assist the Adjutant General in the exercise of command and control over state military forces when not activated for federal duty under Title 10 of the United States Code. There shall be assigned to the joint force forces headquarters, officers, enlisted personnel, and civilian employees as may be considered necessary by the Governor as Commander in Chief and as may be authorized by law and Army National Guard regulations and Air National Guard regulations the Adjutant General.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 24, is

amended to read as follows:

Section 24. A. The Adjutant General shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Oklahoma State Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

- B. To be eligible to hold the office of Adjutant General of this state, at the time of appointment, the appointee:
- 1. Shall be a federally recognized <u>and currently serving as a colonel or higher ranking</u> officer of the Oklahoma National Guard and of the National Guard of the United States for no less than three (3) years of service in the Oklahoma National Guard;
 - 2. Shall possess at least the rank of Colonel; and
- 3. If not already a general officer, shall be eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility pursuant to federal law and applicable regulations issued by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.
- C. If the Oklahoma National Guard is in active federal service and no persons having the qualifications required in subsection B of this section are available within the state, then the Governor may appoint, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, any suitably qualified person who at any time in the preceding ten (10) years would have been qualified, as above, and who has served at least two (2) years in active federal service in the grade of Colonel or higher.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 25, is amended to read as follows:

Section 25. A. The Adjutant General shall have the rank of Major General and devote full time to the duties of the office.

Regardless of whether or not the Adjutant General has been recognized federally at the rank of Major General at the time of appointment by the Governor, the Adjutant General shall be compensated at the same rate of pay afforded to a Major General serving on federal Title 10 active duty with the same time in service.

B. The Governor may appoint Assistant Adjutants General for Army and Assistant Adjutants General for Air to assist the Adjutant General in the discharge and performance of his or her duties. When appointing Assistant Adjutants General, the Governor shall take into consideration the number of such positions contemplated or recommended by the National Guard Bureau for manning the joint forces headquarters of a state. Such Assistant Adjutants General shall have the qualifications prescribed by law for the Adjutant General and shall have the rank of Brigadier General. The Assistant Adjutants General appointed by the Governor shall be considered staff officers and not commanders except that, in the discretion of the Adjutant General, specific command or supervisory authority may be delegated by the Adjutant General to an Assistant Adjutant General but such delegation shall be accomplished in writing and

shall be considered a military publication, as defined in Section 801 of this title (Article 1).

- C. Other general officers assigned to billets within the state military forces, including certain billets within the joint forces headquarters, shall be considered staff officers and not commanders except that, in the discretion of the Adjutant General, specific command or supervisory authority may be delegated by the Adjutant General to such general officers, but such delegation shall be accomplished in writing and shall be considered a military publication, as defined in Section 801 of this title (Article 1).
- D. The Adjutant General may employ a state employee in the position of Executive Assistant and Programs Manager for the Military Department of the state. Said position shall be unclassified and exempt from the Oklahoma Personnel Act and the Merit Rules for Employment, except leave regulations.
- SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 26, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 26. A. The Adjutant General shall be in control of the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma, subordinate only to the Governor. Within the limitations and under the provisions of law, he or she shall supervise and direct the Oklahoma National Guard within the service of the state and when under state control in all of its organization, training and other activities; shall receive and give effect to the orders of the Governor; and shall

perform such other military and defense duties, not otherwise
assigned by law, as the Governor may prescribe. The Adjutant

General shall have the authority to arm members of the state

military forces on military installations and other places under the
control of the Military Department with weaponry as the Adjutant

General deems necessary to adequately provide for the security of
the facilities and their occupants.

- B. The Adjutant General, when absent from the state, may temporarily delegate any authority vested under this title and any such duties as an agency appointing authority to an Assistant Adjutant General, other state officer or employee within the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma. Such temporary delegations of authority pursuant to this subsection shall be accomplished in writing. The Adjutant General may also promulgate regulations providing for the delegation of any such authority.
- C. The Adjutant General shall develop, publish and maintain an organizational chart depicting the chain of command between the Adjutant General and the major commands of the Oklahoma National Guard. Besides the major commands defined in Section 801 of this title (Article 1), the Adjutant General, in his or her discretion, may designate other military units within the Oklahoma National Guard as major commands.
- D. The organizational chart required in subsection C of this section shall be updated no less than annually and shall include all

enlisted and officer billets assigned to joint forces headquarters
and shall depict all existing command relationships established by
the Adjutant General within joint forces headquarters. The
organizational chart required herein shall not be considered a
military publication within the meaning of Section 801 of this title
(Article 1).

- E. In accordance with all relevant requirements of the United States Army, the United States Air Force or the National Guard Bureau, the Adjutant General shall develop, publish and maintain an enlisted and officer rating scheme for all enlisted and officer billets assigned to joint forces headquarters. The rating scheme required herein shall not be considered a military publication within the meaning of Section 801 of this title (Article 1).
- F. Pursuant to the rules established by the Adjutant General, the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma is authorized to expend appropriated and nonappropriated funds to enhance recruiting and retention efforts for the Oklahoma National Guard.
- G. The Adjutant General may establish rules allowing the

 Military Department of the State of Oklahoma to accept donations and

 bequests to create a program for the benefit of members of the

 Oklahoma National Guard.
- H. The Adjutant General shall serve as the chief of all fire protection units operating under the Oklahoma Military Department and shall supervise and administer the fire protection units in

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1 accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed by the Military
2 Department.
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- I. The Adjutant General shall serve as the chief of all police units and officers appointed under the Oklahoma Military Department.

 The Adjutant General may appoint police officers in accordance with Section 230 of this title.
- SECTION 5. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 74, O.S.L. 2022 (44 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 233.10a), is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 233.10a. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma may purchase information technology including, but not limited to, computer hardware or software, or any services related to software development, software modifications, or any other services related to the operation and maintenance of computer hardware or software or both, independently and without prior approval from the Office of Management and Enterprise Services Information Services Division. All federal programs managed by the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma shall be exempt from any and all Information Services Division requirements.
 - SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 243, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 243. A. The Governor is hereby authorized to prescribe rules and regulations governing the enlistment, organization, administration, equipment, discipline and discharge of the personnel

1 of such military forces; to requisition from the Secretary of Defense such arms and equipment as may be in the possession of and can be spared by the Department of Defense and to extend thereto the 3 facilities of state armories, Armed Forces Reserve Centers, 5 readiness centers, logistics, aviation, and training facilities, warehouses and their equipment and such other state premises and 6 7 property as may be available for the purpose of drill and instruction. Insofar as applicable the procedure for the enlistment, organization, pay, maintenance, equipment and 10 disciplining of such forces shall be in conformity with the law and the rules and regulations governing and pertaining to the National 11 12 Guard; provided, that the officers and enlisted personnel in the 13 Oklahoma State Guard shall not receive any compensation or monetary 14 allowances from the state except when activated for state active 15 duty, as defined in Section 801 of this title, by order of the 16 Covernor.

B. Members of the Oklahoma State National Guard shall be considered part of state military forces as defined in Section 801 of this title and shall be subject to the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice.

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C. When prescribing the rules and regulations governing enlistment, organization, administration, equipment, discipline and discharge of the personnel of the Oklahoma State National Guard, the Governor shall issue such rules and regulations in the form of an

executive order or in a series of such orders. An executive order
or a series of such orders prescribing the rules and regulations
governing enlistment, organization, administration, equipment,
discipline and discharge of the personnel of the Oklahoma State

National Guard shall also be published by the Adjutant General as a
military publication.

SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 815, is amended to read as follows:

Section 815. ARTICLE 15. Commanding officer's nonjudicial punishment.

- A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, any commanding officer and, for purposes of this section, any officer in charge, may impose disciplinary punishments for minor offenses arising under the punitive articles of the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice without the intervention of a court-martial.
- B. Any superior commander commanding officer may limit or withhold the exercise of nonjudicial punishment authority by subordinate commanders, including limiting authority over certain categories of military personnel or offenses. Likewise, individual cases may be reserved by a superior commander. A superior authority may limit or withhold any power that a subordinate might otherwise exercise under this section.
- C. Except as provided in subsection L of this section, the Governor or Adjutant General may delegate the powers established

- under this section to a <u>senior</u> <u>commanding</u> officer who is a member of
 the state military forces and is also a member of the same force
 component as the accused.
 - D. Any Except as provided in subsection S of this section, any commanding officer may impose upon enlisted members of the officer's command:
 - 1. An admonition;
 - 2. A reprimand;

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- 3. The withholding of privileges for not more than six (6) months which need not be consecutive;
 - 4. The forfeiture of pay of not more than seven (7) days' pay;
 - 5. A fine of not more than seven (7) days' pay;
- 6. A reduction to the next inferior pay grade, if the grade from which demoted is within the promotion authority of the officer imposing the reduction or any officer subordinate to the one who imposes the reduction;
- 7. Extra duties, including fatigue or other duties, for not more than fourteen (14) days, which need not be consecutive; and
- 8. Restriction to certain specified limits, with or without suspension from duty, for not more than fourteen (14) days, which need not be consecutive.
- E. Any Except as provided in subsection S of this section, any commanding officer of the grade of major or above may impose upon enlisted members of the officer's command:

1 1. An admonition;

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- 2. A reprimand;
- 3. The withholding of privileges for not more than six (6)
 4 months which need not be consecutive;
 - 4. The forfeiture of not more than one-half (1/2) of one (1) month's pay per month for two (2) months;
 - 5. A fine of not more than one (1) month's pay;
 - 6. A reduction to the lowest or any intermediate pay grade, if the grade from which demoted is within the promotion authority of the <u>commanding</u> officer imposing the reduction or any officer subordinate to the one who imposes the reduction, but an enlisted member in a pay grade above E-4 shall not be reduced more than two pay grades;
 - 7. Extra duties, including fatigue or other duties, for not more than forty-five (45) days which need not be consecutive; and
 - 8. Restriction to certain specified limits, with or without suspension from duty, for not more than sixty (60) days which need not be consecutive.
 - F. The Governor, the Adjutant General, or an officer exercising general or special court-martial convening authority may impose:
 - 1. Upon officers of the officer's command:
 - a. any punishment authorized in subsection E of this section, except for the punishments provided in

paragraphs 6 and 7 of subsection E of this section,
and

- b. arrest in quarters for not more than thirty (30) days which need not be consecutive; and
- 2. Upon enlisted members of the officer's command, any punishment authorized in subsection E of this section.

Admonitions or reprimands given as nonjudicial punishment to commissioned officers and warrant officers shall be administered in writing. In all other cases, unless otherwise prescribed by regulations promulgated by the Adjutant General, such punishments may be administered either orally or in writing.

- G. Whenever any punishments are combined to run consecutively, the total length of the combined punishment shall not exceed the authorized duration of the longest punishment included in the combination, and there shall be an apportionment of punishments so that no single punishment in the combination exceeds its authorized length under this section.
- H. Once the commander commanding officer has determined that nonjudicial punishment is appropriate, the commander commanding officer shall provide reasonable notice to the member of his or her intent to impose nonjudicial punishment. At the time the commander commanding officer provides notification as required in this subsection, the member shall be entitled to examine all statements and other evidence that the commander has examined and intends to

1 rely upon as the basis for punishment. The member shall be provided a copy of the documentary evidence unless it is privileged, classified, or otherwise restricted by law, regulation, or 3 instruction. At the time the commander commanding officer provides 5 notification as required in this subsection, the commander commanding officer shall also inform the member as to the quantum of 6 7 punishment potentially to be imposed. While a member undergoing nonjudicial punishment is not entitled to representation by a duly 8 appointed defense counsel, the member may seek legal advice from any 10 judge advocate available for this purpose. Upon notification by the officer of his or her intent to impose judicial punishment, the 11 12 member shall provide a response within forty-five (45) calendar 13 days.

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I. The right to demand trial by court-martial in lieu of nonjudicial punishment shall arise only when arrest in quarters or restriction will be considered as punishments. If the commanding officer determines that arrest in quarters or restriction will be considered as punishments, prior to the offer of nonjudicial punishment the accused member shall be notified in writing of the right to demand trial by court-martial. Should the commanding officer determine that the punishment options will not include arrest in quarters or restriction, the accused member shall be notified that there is no right to trial by court-martial in lieu of nonjudicial punishment. Upon notification by the commander or

- officer in charge commanding officer of his or her intent to impose
 nonjudicial punishment that includes arrest in quarters or
 restriction, the accused member shall be afforded a reasonable
 amount of time to confer with legal counsel and to prepare a
 response.
 - J. The <u>commanding</u> officer who imposes the punishment, or his or her successor in command, may at any time suspend, set aside, mitigate or remit any part or amount of the punishment and restore all rights, privileges and property affected. The <u>commanding</u> officer may also mitigate:
 - 1. Reduction in grade to forfeiture of pay;
 - 2. Arrest in quarters to restriction; or
 - 3. Extra duties to restriction.

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- The mitigated punishment shall not be for a greater period than the punishment mitigated. When mitigating reduction in grade to forfeiture of pay, the amount of the forfeiture shall not be greater than the amount that could have been imposed initially under this article by the officer who imposed the punishment mitigated.
- K. A person punished under this section who considers the punishment unjust or disproportionate to the offense may, through his or her chain of command, appeal to a senior officer designated by the Adjutant General to adjudicate appeals arising from nonjudicial punishment. A senior officer so designated by the Adjutant General shall be a member of the same component of the

state military forces as the accused. An appeal made pursuant to this subsection shall be lodged within fifteen (15) days after the punishment is announced to the accused member. The commanding officer exercising appellate authority may, at his or her discretion, extend the deadline for an appeal. The appeal shall be promptly forwarded and decided, and the member shall not be punished until the appeal is decided. The senior officer designated by the Adjutant General as exercising appellate authority may exercise the same powers with respect to the punishment imposed as may be exercised under subsection I of this section by the officer who imposed the punishment. Before acting on an appeal from a punishment, the senior officer exercising appellate authority shall refer the case to a judge advocate for consideration and advice. When a senior officer is designated by the Adjutant General to adjudicate appeals arising from nonjudicial punishment, such designation shall be accomplished in writing and shall be considered a military publication, as defined in Section 801 of this title (Article 1).

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L. Except for nonjudicial punishment imposed by the Governor or the Adjutant General, the final appellate authority for nonjudicial punishment imposed within state military forces is the Adjutant General. A person punished under this section whose appeal was previously denied by a senior officer designated to adjudicate appeals may, through his or her chain of command, lodge an

additional appeal with the Adjutant General within five (5) days after the appeal is denied. In the event the officer imposing nonjudicial punishment is a senior officer who is also designated to adjudicate appeals arising from nonjudicial punishment, an appeal thereof shall be addressed directly to the Adjutant General. In the event the officer imposing nonjudicial punishment is the Adjutant General, an appeal thereof shall be addressed directly to the Governor. An appeal offered pursuant to this subsection shall be made only in writing. Neither the Governor nor the Adjutant General shall delegate his or her duties as an appellate authority under this subsection.

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- M. Whenever nonjudicial punishment is imposed under this section:
- 1. After adjudication and while the punishment is being carried out or while the adjudged punishment is pending before the appellate authority, the commander or officer in charge who imposed the nonjudicial punishment, upon the request of the accused member, may:
 - a. excuse the <u>accused member</u> from attendance at scheduled unit training assemblies, or
 - b. arrange for the accused member to drill on alternate dates and in alternate locations; or
- 2. If necessary to maintain good order and discipline within the unit, the commander or officer in charge commanding officer who imposed the nonjudicial punishment may order the accused member to

drill on alternate dates and in alternate locations. The order shall be reduced to writing and shall become part of the record of nonjudicial punishment.

- N. The imposition and enforcement of disciplinary punishment under this section for any act or omission shall not be a bar to trial by court-martial or a civilian court of competent jurisdiction for a crime or offense arising out of the same act or omission; but the fact that a disciplinary punishment has been enforced may be demonstrated by the accused member upon trial and, when so demonstrated, it shall be considered in determining the measure of punishment to be adjudged in the event of a finding or verdict of guilty. Nonjudicial punishment shall not be imposed for an offense previously tried by a civilian court unless so authorized by regulations promulgated by the Adjutant General.
- O. When nonjudicial punishment has been imposed for an offense, punishment shall not again be imposed for the same offense under this section. Once nonjudicial punishment has been imposed, it may not be increased, upon appeal or otherwise. When a commander or officer in charge commanding officer determines that nonjudicial punishment is appropriate for a particular member, all known offenses determined to be appropriate for disposition by nonjudicial punishment and ready to be considered at that time, including all offenses arising from a single incident or course of conduct, shall be considered together and shall not be made the basis for multiple

punishments. This subsection shall in no way restrict the right of a commander commanding officer to prefer court-martial charges for an offense previously punished under the provisions of this section.

- P. In accordance with subsection B of Section 843 of this title (Article 43, subsection B), a person accused of an offense is not liable to be punished under this section if the offense was committed more than two (2) years before the imposition of punishment. Periods in which the accused member is absent without authority shall be excluded in computing the period of limitation prescribed in this section.
- Q. Whenever a punishment of forfeiture of pay is imposed under this section, the forfeiture shall not apply to pay accruing before the date that punishment is imposed, but only pay accruing on or after the date that punishment is imposed.
- R. The Adjutant General may promulgate regulations prescribing the type and form of records to be kept of proceedings conducted pursuant to this section. The Adjutant General may promulgate any other regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
- S. For purposes of this section, no member of the Oklahoma

 National Guard of the rank of E-8 or E-9 shall be reduced in rank

 pursuant to this section except when the reduction results from

 nonjudicial punishment imposed by an officer of the Oklahoma

 National Guard of the rank of Brigadier General or by the Adjutant

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    General. When imposing nonjudicial punishment on enlisted persons
    of the rank of E-7 or below, a commander or officer in charge who
    possesses the rank of colonel may consider reduction in rank as a
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    possible punishment.
                       AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 821, is
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        SECTION 8.
    amended to read as follows:
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        Section 821. RESERVED ARTICLE 21. Convening of court-martial
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    by federal officials.
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        In no case shall the President of the United States, the
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    Secretary of Defense, the secretary of a military department, a
    military officer serving on active duty within the meaning of Title
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    10 of the United States Code, or any other federal official convene
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    a court-martial proceeding pursuant to the Oklahoma Military Code
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    unless prior consent has been granted by the Governor. Such
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    consent, if granted by the Governor, shall be accomplished in
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    writing and shall be published by the Governor.
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        SECTION 9.
                      AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 875, is
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    amended to read as follows:
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        Section 875. ARTICLE 75. Restoration.
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            Under such regulations as the Adjutant General may
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    promulgate, all rights, privileges, and property affected by an
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executed part of a court-martial sentence which has been set aside

or disapproved, except an executed dismissal or discharge, shall be

restored unless a new trial or rehearing is ordered and such

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executed part is included in a sentence imposed upon the new trial or rehearing.

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- B. If a previously executed sentence of dishonorable or badconduct discharge is not imposed on a new trial, the Adjutant

 General shall substitute therefor a form of discharge authorized for administrative issuance unless the accused is to serve out the remainder of his or her enlistment.
- C. If a previously executed sentence of dismissal is not imposed on a new trial, the Adjutant General shall substitute therefor a form of discharge authorized for administrative issue, and the commissioned officer dismissed by that sentence may be reappointed pursuant to Sections 875 and 12203 of Title 10 of the United States Code and any applicable regulations prescribed thereunder by the President of the United States or the Secretary concerned solely by the Governor to such commissioned grade and with such rank as in the opinion of the Governor that former officer would have attained had he or she not been dismissed. The reappointment of such a former officer shall be without regard to the existence of a vacancy and shall affect the promotion status of other officers only insofar as the Governor may direct. All time between the dismissal and the reappointment shall be considered as actual service for all purposes, including the right to pay and allowances.

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D. The Governor or Adjutant General shall prescribe
regulations, with such limitations as the Governor or Adjutant

General considers appropriate, governing eligibility for pay and
allowances for the period after the date on which an executed part
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6 SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 905, is 7 amended to read as follows:

Section 905. RESERVED ARTICLE 105. Forgery.

of a court-martial sentence is set aside.

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Any person subject to the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military

Justice who, with intent to defraud:

- 1. Falsely makes or alters any signature to, or any part of,
 any writing which would, if genuine, apparently impose a legal
 liability on another or change his or her legal right or liability
 to his or her prejudice; or
- 2. Utters, offers, issues, or transfers such a writing, known by him or her to be so made or altered, is guilty of forgery and shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 912, is amended to read as follows:

Section 912. Drunkenness and other incapacitation offenses.

A. Drunk on duty. Any person subject to the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice, other than a sentinel or lookout, who is drunk on duty shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

B. Incapacitation for duty from drunkenness or drug use. Any person subject to the Code who, as a result of indulgence in any alcoholic beverage or any drug, is incapacitated for the proper performance of duty shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

- C. Drunk prisoner. Any person subject to the Code who is a prisoner and, while in such status, is drunk shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.
- SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 912a, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 912a. Wrongful use, possession, etc., of controlled substances.
 - A. Any person subject to the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice who wrongfully uses, possesses, manufactures, distributes, imports into the customs territory of the United States, exports from the United States, or introduces into an installation, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used by or under the control of the Armed Forces of the United States or of the state military forces a substance described in subsection B of this section shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.
 - B. The substances referred to in subsection A of this section are the following:
- 1. Opium, heroin, cocaine, amphetamine, lysergic acid diethylamide, methamphetamine, phencyclidine, barbituric acid, and marijuana and any compound or derivative of any such substance;

2. Any substance not specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection that is listed on a schedule of controlled substances prescribed by the President for the purposes of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Title 10 of the United States Code, Section 801, et seq.; and

- 3. Any other substance not specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection or contained on a list prescribed by the President under paragraph 2 of this subsection that is listed in schedules I through V of article 202 of the Controlled Substances Act, Title 21 of the United States Code, Section 812.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any member of the state military
 forces to knowingly use or ingest marijuana or any substances or
 products derived from marijuana including, but not limited to, hemp,
 tetrahydrocannabinol, and cannabidiol.
- SECTION 13. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 928b, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 928b. RESERVED Any person subject to the Oklahoma

 18 Uniform Code of Military Justice who:
 - 1. Commits a violent offense against a spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family member of that person;
 - 2. With intent to threaten or intimidate a spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family member of that person, commits an offense under this chapter against any person or property, including an animal;

3. With intent to threaten or intimidate a spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family member of that person, violates a protection order;

- 4. With intent to commit a violent offense against a spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family member of that person, violates a protection order; or
- 5. Assaults a spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family member of that person by strangling or suffocating, shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.
- SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 934, is amended to read as follows:
- 12 | Section 934. ARTICLE 134 General Article.

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Though not specifically mentioned in the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice, all disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and discipline in the state military forces, all conduct of a nature to bring discredit upon the state military forces, and crimes and offenses not capital, of which persons subject to the Code may be guilty, shall be taken cognizance of by a general, special, or summary court-martial, according to the nature and degree of the offense, and shall be punished at the discretion of that court. However, where a crime constitutes an offense that violates both the Code and the criminal laws of the State of Oklahoma, jurisdiction over the offense shall be determined in accordance with Section 802 of this title (Article 2). This section

shall encompass all specifically enumerated offenses included in

Section 934 of Title 10 of the United States Code, including all

amendments thereto adopted from time to time, except when such

provisions are contrary to or inconsistent with the Code.

SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 44 O.S. 2021, Section 937, is amended to read as follows:

Section 937. ARTICLE 137. Articles to be explained.

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- A. 1. The sections of the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice specified in paragraph 3 of this subsection shall be carefully explained, either orally or in writing, to each officer and enlisted member at the time of, or within one hundred twenty (120) days after, the officer's or enlisted member's initial entrance into a duty status with the state military forces.
 - 2. Such articles shall be explained again:
 - a. after the enlisted member has completed basic or recruit training, and
 - b. at the time when the enlisted member reenlists within ninety (90) days of each re-enlistment.
- 3. This subsection applies with respect to Sections 802, 803, 807-815, 825, 827, 831, 837, 838, 855, 877-934, and 937-939 of this title (Articles 2, 3, 7-15, 25, 27, 31, 37, 38, 55, 77-134, and 137-139).
 - B. The text of the Code and of the regulations prescribed pursuant to the Code shall be made available to an officer or

enlisted member of the state military forces, upon request, for the officer's or enlisted member's personal examination. Electronic or online availability of the Code and of the regulations prescribed pursuant to the Code shall constitute availability for purposes of personal examination by officers or enlisted members of the state military forces.

SECTION 16. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 940C of Title 44, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

ARTICLE 140C. Manual for Courts-Martial.

Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, including all amendments thereto adopted from time to time, except when such rules are contrary to or inconsistent with the Oklahoma Uniform Code of Military Justice, shall be adopted as the Oklahoma State Manual for Courts-Martial.

SECTION 17. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 239 of Title 44, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The co-located readiness and joint operating center facilities constructed by the Military Department or on behalf of the Military Department shall be named the "Benjamin T. Walkingstick National Guard Complex".

- SECTION 18. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-140 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
 - A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Act".
 - B. As used in this act:

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- "Technology center school" means a technology center school under the governance of the State Board of Career and Technology Education;
- 2. "Eligible Guard member" means a current member of the Oklahoma National Guard in good standing who has a high school diploma or who has completed General Educational Development (GED) requirements and who has enrolled in a technology center school; and
- 3. "Program" means the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech
 Assistance Program established pursuant to the provisions of this
 section.
- C. 1. There is hereby created the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Program to provide assistance to eligible Guard members who enroll in a technology center school. Subject to the availability of funds, the amount of assistance shall be equivalent to the amount of tuition for a career and technology program in which the eligible Guard member is enrolled leading to certification or licensure, not to exceed a maximum of three (3) years.

2. Assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be granted without any limitation other than the amount of funds available for the program and the number of eligible Guard members who apply, subject to any cap established by the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma.

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- 3. Assistance allowed by this section shall not be allowed for courses taken in excess of the requirements for completion of a technology center school program leading to certification or licensure.
- D. Assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be allocated to the technology center school from the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 2 of this act.
- E. To be eligible to apply for the program, an eligible Guard member shall:
- 1. Have at least one (1) year remaining on his or her enlistment contract at the beginning of any semester for which the member applies for assistance pursuant to this section;
- 2. Agree in writing to complete his or her current service obligation in the Oklahoma National Guard; and
- 3. Agree in writing to serve actively in good standing with the Oklahoma National Guard for not less than twenty-four (24) months after completion of the last semester for which the member receives assistance pursuant to this section.

F. To retain eligibility for the program, an eligible Guard member shall:

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- 1. Maintain good academic standing and satisfactory progress according to standards of the technology center school in which the member is enrolled;
- 2. Maintain the requirements for retention and completion as established by the technology center school in which the member is enrolled;
- 3. Maintain a minimum grade point of average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale;
- 4. Maintain satisfactory participation in the Oklahoma National Guard; and
- 5. Possess a Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) or Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) after his or her first semester.
- G. An eligible Guard member seeking assistance pursuant to the provisions of this section shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the Military Department of the State of Oklahoma to the Educational Service Office of the Military Department prior to the semester for which assistance is sought. The eligible Guard member's Commander or his or her designee shall confirm a member's standing and eligibility to the technology center school in which the student is enrolled. The Military Department may establish a cap on the number of eligible Guard members allowed to participate per semester per technology center school program.

H. The eligible Guard member's Commander may deny an application submitted by an eligible Guard member for continued program assistance if he or she fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 of subsection F of this section.

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- I. An eligible Guard member who has received program assistance pursuant to the provisions of this section and who fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph 4 of subsection F of this section shall be required to repay an amount to be calculated as follows:
- 1. Determine the total amount of assistance provided pursuant to the provisions of this section;
- 2. Divide the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by twenty-four (24); and
- 3. Multiply the amount determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection by the number of months the member did not fulfill the requirements of paragraph 4 of subsection F of this section.

 Repayments shall be deposited into the Oklahoma National Guard

 CareerTech Assistance Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 2 of this act.
- J. An eligible Guard member who has received program assistance pursuant to the provisions of this section and who fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph 4 of subsection F of this section due to hardship circumstances may request a waiver from repayment.

 A waiver request shall be submitted in writing to the Adjutant General.

K. By July 1 annually, the State Board of Career and Technology Education shall notify the Adjutant General of the amount of funding available in the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 2 of this act.

- L. The State Board of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act including deadlines for submission of applications required by subsection G of this section. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma shall promulgate regulations pertaining to the application process and the determination of eligibility for the program. The Board and the Department shall coordinate the promulgation of rules and regulations, respectively. The Adjutant General may promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act.
- SECTION 19. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-140.1 of Title 44, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- A. Subject to the provisions of this section, the Adjutant General may permit a qualifying member described in Section 18 of this act who is entitled to education assistance under this act to elect to transfer to one or more of the dependents specified in subsection (c) a portion of such individuals entitlement to such assistance, subject to the limitation under subsection (d).
- B. An individual referred to in subsection A is any member of the uniformed services who, at the time of the approval of the

- 1 individual's request to transfer entitlement to educational
 2 assistance under this section, has completed at least:
 - 1. Six (6) years of service in the Oklahoma National Guard and enters into an agreement to serve at least four more years as a member of the uniformed services; or
 - 2. The years of service as determined in regulations pursuant to subsection J.
 - C. Eligible dependents.

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- 1. Transfer an individual approved to transfer an entitlement to educational assistance under this section may transfer the individual's entitlement to an eligible dependent or a combination of eligible dependents.
- 2. Definition of eligible dependents for purposes of this subsection, the term "eligible dependent" has the meaning given the term "dependent" under subparagraphs (a), (I), and (d) of section 1072(2) of Title 10 of the United States Code.
- D. Limitation of months of transfer the total number of months of entitlement transferred by an individual under this section may not exceed 36 months. The Adjutant General may prescribe regulations that would limit the months of entitlement that may be transferred under this section to no less than 18 months.
- E. Designation of transferee an individual transferring an entitlement to education assistance under this section shall:

1. Designate the dependent or dependents to whom such entitlement is being transferred; and

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- 2. Designate the number of months of such entitlement to be transferred to such dependent.
 - F. Time for transfer; revocation and modification:
- 1. Subject to the time limitation for use of entitlement under this act, and except as provided in subsection (k) or (l), an individual approved to transfer entitlement to educational assistance under this section may transfer such entitlement only while serving as a member of the Oklahoma National Guard when the transfer is executed.
- 2. An individual transferring entitlement under this section may modify or revoke at any time the transfer of any unused portion of the entitlement so transferred. The modification or revocation of the transfer of entitlement under this subsection shall be made by the submittal of written notice of the action to the Adjutant General and Governor.
- 3. Entitlement transferred under this section may not be treated as marital property, or the asset of a marital estate, subject to division in a divorce or other civil proceeding.
- G. A dependent to whom entitlement to educational assistance is transferred under this section may not commence the use of the transferred entitlement until:

1. In the case of entitlement transferred to a spouse, the completion by the individual making the transfer of at least:

- a. six (6) years of service in the National Guard, or
- b. the years of service as determined in regulations pursuant to subsection (j); or
- 2. In the case of entitlement transferred to a child, both:
 - a. the completion by the individual making the transfer of at least:
 - (1) six (6) years of service in the National Guard, or
 - (2) the years of service as determined in regulations pursuant to subsection (j), or
 - b. either:

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- (1) the completion by the child of the requirements of a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate), or
- (2) the attainment by the child of eighteen (18) years of age.
- H. Additional Administrative Matters.
- 1. The use of any entitlement to educational assistance transferred under this section shall be charged against the entitlement of the individual making the transfer at the rate of one month for each month of transferred entitlement that is used.

2. Except as provided under paragraph 2 of subsection E and subject to paragraphs 5 and 6:

- a. in the case of entitlement transferred to a spouse under this section, the spouse is entitled to educational assistance under this chapter in the same manner as the individual from whom the entitlement was transferred as if the individual were not on active duty.
- b. in the case of entitlement transferred to a child under this section, the child is entitled to educational assistance under this Act in the same manner as the individual from whom the entitlement was transferred as if the individual were not on active duty.
- 3. The monthly rate of education assistance payable to a dependent to whom entitlement referred to in paragraph (2) is transferred under this section shall be payable:
 - entitlement would otherwise be payable under this chapter to the individual making the transfer as if the individual were not on active duty.
 - b. in the case of a child, at the same rate as such entitlement would otherwise be payable under this

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chapter to the individual making the transfer as if the individual were not on active duty.

4. Death of transferor:

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- 1. In general. The death of an individual transferring an entitlement under this section shall not affect the use of the entitlement by the dependent to whom the entitlement is transferred.
 - 2. Death prior to transfer to designated transferees.
 - a. In the case of an eligible individual whom the

 Secretary has approved to transfer the individual's
 entitlement under this section who, at the time of
 death, is entitled to educational assistance under
 this chapter and has designated a transferee or
 transferees under subsection E but has not transferred
 all of such entitlement to such transferee or
 transferees, the Secretary shall transfer the
 entitlement of the individual under this section by
 evenly distributing the amount of such entitlement
 between all such transferees who would not be
 precluded from using some or all of the transferred
 benefits due to the expiration of time limitations
 found in paragraph 5 of this subsection
 notwithstanding the limitations under subsection F.
 - b. If a transferee cannot use all of the transferred benefits under paragraph a of this subsection because

of expiration of a time limitation, the unused benefits will be distributed among the other designated transferees who would not be precluded from using some or all of the transferred benefits due to expiration of time limitations found in paragraph 5 of this subsection, unless or until there are no transferees who would not be precluded from using the transferred benefits because of expiration of a time limitation.

5. Limitation on age of use by child transferees.

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- a. In general. A child to whom entitlement is transferred under this section may use the benefits transferred without regard to the fifteen-year delimiting date specified in this act, but may not, except as provided in subparagraph b or c, use any benefits so transferred after attaining the age of twenty-six (26) years.
- b. Primary caregivers of seriously injured members of the armed forces and veterans.
 - (1) In general. Subject to clause (ii), in the case of a child who, before attaining the age of 26 years, is prevented from pursuing a chosen program of education by reason of acting as the primary provider of personal care services for a

1 2 3 5 (2) 6 7 8 as such a primary provider. 10 (3) 11 12 1.3 of 14 (a) 15

veteran or member of the Oklahoma National Guard, the child may use the benefits beginning on the date specified in clause (iii) for a period whose length is specified in clause (iv).

(2) Inapplicability for revocation.

Clause (i) shall not apply with respect to the period of an individual as a primary provider of personal care services if the period concludes with the revocation of the individual's designation as such a primary provider.

- 3) Date for commencement of use.—The date specified in this clause for the beginning of the use of benefits by a child under clause (i) is the later of
 - the date on which the child ceases acting as the primary provider of personal care services for the veteran or member concerned as described in clause (i),
 - (b) the date on which it is reasonably feasible, as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, for the child to initiate or resume the use of benefits, or
 - (c) the date on which the child attains the age of twenty-six (26) years.

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- 4. Length of use. The length of the period specified in this clause for the use of benefits by a child under clause (i) is the length equal to the length of the period that—
 - a. begins on the date on which the child begins acting as
 the primary provider of personal care services for the
 veteran or member concerned as described in clause
 (i), and
 - b. ends on the later of:

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- (1) the date on which the child ceases acting as the primary provider of personal care services for the veteran or member as described in clause (i), or
- (2) the date on which it is reasonably feasible, as so determined, for the child to initiate or resume the use of benefits.
- c. In any case in which the Adjutant General determines that an individual to whom entitlement is transferred under this section has been prevented from pursuing the individual's chosen program of education before the individual attains the age of twenty-six (26) years because the educational institution or training established closed (temporarily or permanently) under an established policy based on an Executive order of the Governor or due to an emergency situation, the

Adjutant General shall extend the period during which the individual may use such entitlement for a period equal to the number of months that the individual was so prevented from pursuing the program of education, as determined by the Adjutant General.

- 6. The purposes for which a dependent to whom entitlement is transferred under this section may use such entitlement shall include the pursuit and completion of the requirements of a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate).
- 7. The administrative provisions of this act shall apply to the use of entitlement transferred under this section, except that the dependent to whom the entitlement is transferred shall be treated as the eligible individual for purposes of such provisions.
 - I. Overpayment.

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- 1. Subject to paragraph 2, in the event of an overpayment of educational assistance with respect to a dependent to whom entitlement is transferred under this section, the dependent and the individual making the transfer shall be jointly and severally liable to the State of Oklahoma for the amount of the overpayment.
 - 2. Failure to complete service agreement.
 - a. Except as provided in subparagraph b, if an individual transferring entitlement under this section fails to complete the service agreed to by the individual under subsection (b)(1) in accordance with the terms of the

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agreement of the individual under that subsection, the amount of any transferred entitlement under this section that is used by a dependent of the individual as of the date of such failure shall be treated as an overpayment of educational assistance for which the individual shall be solely liable to the State of Oklahoma for the amount of the overpayment for purpose of this act in the case of an individual who fails to complete service agreed to by the individual:

- (1) by reason of death of the individual, or
- (2) for a reason referred to in this act.
- J. Regulations.
- 1. The Adjutant General shall prescribe regulations for purposes of this section.
 - 2. Such regulations shall specify:
 - a. the manner of authorizing the transfer of entitlements under this section,
 - b. the eligibility criteria in accordance with subsectionB, and
 - c. the manner and effect of an election to modify or revoke a transfer of entitlement under paragraph 2 of subsection F.
- 3. The Adjutant General may not prescribe any regulation that would provide for a limitation on eligibility to transfer unused

education benefits to family members based on a maximum number of years in the Oklahoma National Guard.

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- K. In the case of a dependent to whom entitlement to educational assistance is transferred under this section who dies before using all of such entitlement, the individual who transferred the entitlement to the dependent may transfer any remaining entitlement to a different eligible dependent, notwithstanding whether the individual is serving as a member of the Armed Forces when such transfer is executed.
- L. In the case of an individual who transfers entitlement to educational assistance under this section who dies before the dependent to whom entitlement to educational assistance is so transferred has used all of such entitlement, such dependent may transfer such entitlement to another eligible dependent in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- SECTION 20. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-141 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the State Board of Career and Technology Education to be designated the "Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the State Board of Career and Technology Education from state

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    appropriations provided for the purpose of implementing the
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    provisions of Section 1 of this act. All monies accruing to the
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    credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and
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    expended by the State Board of Career and Technology Education for
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    the purpose of providing assistance to eligible Guard members
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    pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this act. Expenditures
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    from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State
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    Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the
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    Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for
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    approval and payment.
                                     44 O.S. 2021, Section 940b, is
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        SECTION 21.
                        REPEALER
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    hereby repealed.
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        SECTION 22. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.
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