

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1054
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Author:	Sen. Goodwin
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Bill Analysis

SB 1054 modifies the Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Program. It directs scholarships to be made available to as many students as feasible, up to 300. It extends eligibility to qualified students of any public school district in the United States who are direct lineal descendants of a person who resided in the Greenwood Area of Tulsa between April 30, 1921, and June 1, 1921, if the students are intending to pursue studies at an institution of higher education, a private institution of higher education, or a postsecondary career and technology education program in Oklahoma. The bill increases the qualifying family income limit from \$70,000.00 to \$125,000.00, with no family income limit for applicants who are direct lineal descendants. It allows the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be used to verify family income. It removes eligibility criteria requiring that an applicant attend a Tulsa public school with certain percentage of students who qualify for free- and reduced-price lunch and that an applicant reside in a certain census block area.

The measure directs the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to give first priority status to applicants who are direct lineal descendants, and it modifies documentation requirements for applicants to prove their lineage. The measure also directs the State Regents to involve a community advisory committee in administration of the scholarship selection process. It provides for the makeup of the seven-member committee, which is to review scholarship applications and make recommendations for recipients and scholarship award amounts. It requires the State Regents to select recipients from the list of recommendations provided. It allows excess scholarship funds to be used for fees, required textbooks or materials, and room and board. It also directs scholarship applicants who are direct lineal descendants to always be given first priority status.

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