

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
5 FOR  
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 4015

By: Conley of the House

and

**Bullard** of the Senate

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10                                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11                   An Act relating to education; permitting certain  
12                   complaints to be filed with the Attorney General's  
13                   Office of Civil Rights Enforcement; authorizing  
14                   Office to receive, investigate, hear, and issue  
15                   orders on complaints; allowing Office to initiate  
16                   certain periodic compliance reviews; granting broad  
17                   discretion to set parameters for reviews; authorizing  
18                   Office to conduct directed investigation in certain  
19                   circumstances; amending 25 O.S. 2021, Section 1501,  
20                   which relates to the powers of the Attorney General's  
21                   Office of Civil Rights Enforcement; modifying powers  
22                   of the Office; providing for codification; and  
23                   providing an effective date.  
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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 9001 of Title 70, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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

7       B. The Office shall be authorized to receive, investigate,  
8 hear, and issue orders on, complaints of discrimination or other  
9 education civil rights violations filed pursuant to subsection A of  
10 this section.

11       C. The Office may initiate periodic compliance reviews to  
12 assess the practices of public schools or institutions of higher  
13 education to determine whether they comply with the laws and  
14 regulations enforced by the Office. The Office, under the direction  
15 of the Attorney General, shall have broad discretion to determine  
16 the substantive issues for review and the number and frequency of  
17 the reviews.

18       D. In appropriate circumstances, the Office may conduct a  
19 directed investigation when information indicates a possible failure  
20 to comply with the laws and regulations enforced by the Office, the  
21 matter warrants attention, and the compliance concern is not  
22 otherwise being addressed through the complaint, compliance review,  
23 or technical assistance activities of the Office.

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

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

6 1. To promote the creation of local commissions on human  
7 rights, and to contract with individuals and state, local and other  
8 agencies, both public and private, including agencies of the federal  
9 government and of other states;

10 2. To accept public grants or private gifts, bequests, or other  
11 payments;

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

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

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

21 6. To require answers to interrogatories, under the procedures  
22 established by Section 3233 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes,  
23 compel the attendance of witnesses, examine witnesses under oath or  
24 affirmation, and require the production of documents in connection

1 with complaints filed under Section 1101 et seq. of this title, said  
2 powers to be exercised only in relation to areas directly and  
3 materially related to the complaint;

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

9 8. To provide technical assistance and public information to  
10 assist in preventing and eliminating discriminatory housing  
11 practices; and

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

14 B. The Attorney General shall:

15 1. At least annually, publish a written report recommending  
16 legislative or other action to carry out the purposes of Section  
17 1101 et seq. of this title as it relates to housing discrimination;

18 2. Make studies relating to the nature and extent of  
19 discriminatory housing practices in this state; and

20 3. Cooperate with and, as appropriate, may provide technical  
21 and other assistance to federal, state, local, and other public or  
22 private entities that are formulating or operating programs to  
23 prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

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

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3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON STATE POWERS, dated 03/02/2022 -  
4 DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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