

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 SENATE BILL 1286

By: Young

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to state government; creating the
8 Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality; providing
9 for membership, appointment, terms, removal,
10 vacancies and reimbursement; providing for meetings
11 and officers; providing for staff and meeting space;
12 providing for powers and duties; establishing
13 revolving fund; providing for codification; and
14 providing an effective date.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 777 of Title 74, unless there is
18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Commission on Race and
20 Equality. The Commission shall consist of thirty (30) members. The
21 members shall be appointed as follows: eight members shall be
22 appointed by the Governor, eight members shall be appointed by the
23 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, eight members shall be
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and six
25 members shall be appointed by the Oklahoma Legislative Black Caucus.
26 All members shall be appointed by the appropriate appointing

1 authority for a term of five (5) years commencing with the date that
2 the previous appointees term expired. In making such appointments,
3 consideration shall be given to making the membership broadly
4 representative of the geographic areas of the state and the several
5 racial and ethnic groups residing in the state. Each member shall
6 hold office until the successor of the member is appointed and has
7 qualified. A member of the Commission may be removed by the
8 appropriate appointing authority for cause. A member appointed to
9 fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of a term of a member
10 separated from the Commission for any cause shall be appointed for
11 the remainder of the term of the member whose office has been so
12 vacated. Members of the Commission shall receive no salary, but
13 shall be entitled to travel reimbursement as provided by the State
14 Travel Reimbursement Act, from funds available to the appropriate
15 appointing authority.

16 B. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall
17 provide staff support to the Oklahoma Commission on Race and
18 Equality and make arrangements for suitable meeting space for the
19 Commission as needed.

20 C. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall name the chair
21 of the Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality, and the Speaker of
22 the House of Representatives shall name the vice-chair. Any other
23 officers deemed necessary shall be elected from among the members at
24 the first meeting of the Commission. Thereafter, at the first

1 meeting of each fiscal year, the Commission shall elect a chair, a
2 vice-chair and such other officers deemed necessary to conduct the
3 business of the Commission from among its members. The Commission
4 shall meet at least once every three (3) months and at such other
5 times as called by the chair or by a majority of the Commission.

6 D. The Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality shall have the
7 power and the duty to:

8 1. Advise on equality issues relating to racial discrimination
9 and bias, state agencies and employees, communities, organizations
10 and businesses of this state which desire the services of the
11 Commission;

12 2. Monitor legislation to determine whether legislation is
13 discriminatory toward one race or ethnicity or whether the race, or
14 ethnicity of an individual would have an effect on the enforcement
15 of the legislation;

16 3. Act as a resource and a clearinghouse for research on issues
17 related to racial discrimination and bias;

18 4. Conduct meetings and seminars within the state as
19 appropriate to support the goals and duties of the Commission; and

20 5. Report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the
21 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of its
22 activities. The report recommendations may include recommendations
23 concerning needed legislation or regulatory changes relating to
24 racial discrimination and bias.

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 777.1 of Title 74, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund
5 for the Office of Management and Enterprise Services designated the
6 "Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality Revolving Fund". The fund
7 shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations,
8 and shall consist of all gifts and donations contributed to support
9 the work of the Oklahoma Commission on Race and Equality. All
10 monies accrued to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and
11 may be budgeted and expended by the Director of the Office of
12 Management and Enterprise Services on behalf of the Oklahoma
13 Commission on Race and Equality for the purposes prescribed by the
14 Legislature in creating the Commission. Expenditures from the fund
15 shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against
16 claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of
17 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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