1 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023) 3 ENGROSSED SENATE 4 BILL NO. 209 By: Bergstrom of the Senate 5 and 6 Kendrix of the House 7 8 9 An Act relating to capital investments of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 5060.21, 10 which relates to the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund; 11 requiring certain data reporting to be included in certain binding commitments; providing certain exception; updating statutory language; and providing 12 an effective date. 13 14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 5060.21, is 16 amended to read as follows: 17 Section 5060.21. A. There is hereby created in the State 18 Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma Center for the 19 Advancement of Science and Technology to be designated the "Seed-20 Capital Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not 21 subject to fiscal year limitations. The fund shall consist of all 22 monies authorized by law for deposit in the fund including but not 23 limited to gifts, grants, private donations, and funds by government 24

entities authorized to provide funding for the purposes authorized for use of the fund and with payments on loans made from the fund, rents, dividends paid on shares of stock purchased with monies from the fund, royalty proceeds, or any other form of return on authorized investments made by the Center. All monies accruing to the credit of said the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology for use as seed-capital for enterprises and for the purposes set forth in this section, and shall not be used for administrative, management, or operating expenses of the Center. Expenditures from said the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

- B. The Seed-Capital Revolving Fund shall be managed consistent with the long-term goal that revenues earned from investment of the fund be used to cover administrative costs of the fund. The Center may contract with the Commercialization Center or another entity to manage the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund and to carry out the activities set forth in this section.
- C. The Center may use the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund to provide seed-capital to enterprises and to carry out the purposes of the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development Act through authorized investments, including:

- 1 l. Loans, loans convertible to equity, and equity;
- 2 2. Leaseholds;

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- 3. Management or consultant service agreements;
- 4. Loans with stock subscription or similar warrants that are beneficially owned by the Center;
- 5. Loans with stock subscription or similar warrants that are beneficially owned by a party other than the Center;
 - 6. Any other contractual arrangement in which the Center is providing scientific and technological services to any federal, state, county, or municipal agency, or to any individual, corporation, enterprise, association, or any other entity involving science and technology. The Center, in connection with the provision of any form of financial assistance, may enter into royalty agreements with an enterprise;
 - 7. Participation as a general or limited partner in other seed-capital funds or participation as a limited partner in individual cases as authorized by the board of directors;
 - 8. Royalty or other interests in patents, licenses, trade secrets, or other technology; and
 - 9. All other seed-capital investments and qualified securities as defined in the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development Act.
- D. The Center may use the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund to
 purchase qualified securities issued by enterprises engaged in new

1 product or process innovations subject to the conditions set forth 2 in this section.

- E. The Center may use the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund to make loans for business incubator facilities in exchange for interests in the enterprises.
- F. The Center shall make authorized seed-capital investments in enterprises engaged in new product or process innovations only after:
- 1. Receipt of an application from the enterprise which contains:
 - a business plan including a description of the enterprise and its management, product, and market,
 - b. a statement of the amount, timing, and projected use of the capital required,
 - c. a statement of the potential economic impact of the enterprise, including the number, location, and types of jobs expected to be created, and
 - d. such other information as the Center board of directors shall request; and
- 2. Approval of the investment by the Center. Such approval may be made after the board of directors finds, based upon the application submitted by the enterprise and such additional investigation as the staff of the Center shall make and incorporate in its minutes, or based on the recommendation of the fund manager,

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1 if the Center contracts with the Commercialization Center or another 2 entity to manage the Seed-Capital Revolving Fund, that: the proceeds of the investment or financial assistance 3 a. will be used only to cover the seed-capital needs of 4 5 the enterprise except as authorized by this section, the enterprise has a reasonable chance of success, 6 b. the Center's participation is instrumental to the 7 C. success of the enterprise and will assist in its 8 9 retention within the state, the Center's investment is leveraged by at least one 10 d. additional equity or near-equity investor, 11 12 e. the enterprise has the reasonable potential to enhance employment opportunities within the state, 13 f. the entrepreneur and other founders of the enterprise 14 have already made or are contractually committed to 15 make an appropriate financial and time commitment to 16 the enterprise, 17 any securities to be purchased are qualified 18 g. securities, 19 there is a reasonable possibility that the Center will 20 h. recoup at least its initial investment or financial 21 commitment, and 22 binding commitments have been made to the Center by i. 23

the enterprise for adequate reporting of financial

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data to the Center, which shall include a requirement for an annual report, or if required by the board, an annual audit of the financial and operational records of the enterprise, and for such control on the part of the Center as the board of directors shall consider prudent over the management of the enterprise, so as to protect the investment or financial commitment of the Center, including in the discretion of the board and without limitation, right of access to financial and other records of the enterprise, and membership or representation on the board of directors of the enterprise. The binding commitments made pursuant to this subparagraph for adequate reporting of financial data shall include data that exhibit the growth rate of employment, wages, revenues, and a provided measure of profitability reported consistently among the enterprises. The growth rates shall be reported both on an annual basis and to reflect the growth that has occurred since investments were made pursuant to this section. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall collaborate with the Center for the reporting of financial data. The Center may provide an exception to the commitment required pursuant to this subparagraph for certain circumstances that make the

providing of data unfeasible, including but not

limited to the death of owners or management,

dissolution of the enterprise, or abandonment of

projects.

- G. The board of directors shall create an investment committee to assist in evaluating potential investments in qualified securities and provision of other forms of authorized financial assistance. The membership of this investment committee shall serve at the pleasure of the board and shall consist of:
- 1. No more than two members of the board of directors, neither of whom serves on any advisory committee to the Center; and
- 2. Persons drawn from sources other than the Center who meet standards similar to those applying to the board of directors and who are recognized by their peers for outstanding knowledge and leadership in their fields, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the board.
- H. The Center shall not make investments in qualified securities issued by enterprises in excess of the amount necessary to own more than forty-nine percent (49%) of qualified securities in any one enterprise at the time such securities are purchased by the Center, after giving effect to the conversion of all outstanding convertible qualified securities of the enterprise; however, in the event of severe financial difficulty of the enterprise, threatening, in the judgment of the board of directors, the investment of the

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Center therein, a greater percentage of such securities may be owned
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    by the Center.
        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.
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    COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 04/11/2023 - DO PASS.
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SB209 HFLR BOLD FACE denotes Committee Amendments.