

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 23, 2021

3 SENATE BILL NO. 614

By: Bullard

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6 An Act relating to higher education; affording
7 certain rights to students enrolled in and attending
8 institutions within The Oklahoma State System of
9 Higher Education; directing institutions to establish
10 a Safe Campus Committee; providing for membership;
11 providing method for reporting violations of certain
12 rights; directing certain committee to create certain
13 due process plan; requiring plan to include certain
14 components; providing for codification; providing an
15 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2129 of Title 70, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. A student enrolled in and attending an institution within
21 The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall be afforded the
22 following rights:

23 1. The right to public and free expression of religion, speech
24 and peaceable assembly including but not limited to:

- 25 a. the right to participate in religious student
26 associations free from discrimination pursuant to the

1 provisions of Sections 2119 through 2119.4 of Title 70
2 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

3 b. the right to engage in expressive activity on campus
4 pursuant to the provisions of Section 2120 of Title 70
5 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and

6 c. the right to an unbiased education that does not
7 endorse, favor, promote, demean, show hostility toward
8 or intentionally undermine any particular religion,
9 nonreligious faith or religious perspective;

10 2. The right to an unbiased education that does not endorse,
11 favor or promote socialism, communism or Marxism and that is free
12 from anti-American bias; and

13 3. The right to an unbiased learning environment that is free
14 from the display of flags or propaganda of any organization or
15 symbol of socialism, communism, Marxism or anti-American sentiment.

16 B. Each institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher
17 Education shall establish a Safe Campus Committee to be composed of
18 at least seven (7) members. The committee shall be composed of
19 students who are enrolled full time in the institution, full-time
20 faculty employed by the institution, members of the institution's
21 administration and community representatives.

22 C. Students enrolled in an institution of higher education and
23 faculty employed by an institution of higher education may report
24 violations of the rights provided for in subsection A of this

1 section to the Safe Campus Committee. Reports may be made in a
2 manner that protects the identity of the accuser from retribution.

3 D. The Safe Campus Committee shall create a due process plan
4 for students and faculty that includes, at a minimum, the following:

5 1. Designation of a hotline or email address to submit reports
6 of violations of the rights provided for in subsection A of this
7 section;

8 2. Procedures for investigating and implementing punishment for
9 false accusations;

10 3. Procedures for reporting to law enforcement suspected
11 violations that may constitute criminal activity or reasonably have
12 the potential to endanger campus safety;

13 4. A requirement that reported violations be investigated by
14 the Safe Campus Committee in a timely manner and that individuals
15 involved in the reported violations be notified of the committee's
16 findings; and

17 5. A procedure for the Safe Campus Committee to hear appeals of
18 the committee's findings.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

20 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
21 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
22 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
23 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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1 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 23, 2021 - DO PASS

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