

# An Act

ENROLLED SENATE  
BILL NO. 615

By: Pugh of the Senate

and

Ford of the House

An Act relating to state government; authorizing certain agencies to establish education and training programs; authorizing certain contracts; providing for funding of programs; establishing criteria for participation in program; authorizing tuition reimbursement for successful candidates; outlining procedures for promissory note; establishing penalties; authorizing payment of certain fees; directing promulgation of rules; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Training programs for public safety positions

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 846 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Beginning November 1, 2019, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public Safety, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and the Oklahoma Department of Corrections are authorized to establish a program requiring a one (1) year commitment of service from individuals who are being trained for positions critical to the safety of the public. Funds of the agencies may be used to pay salaries or tuition and subsistence for employees in these training programs, pursuant to the provisions of

subsection C of this section. Employees may be in work status while engaging in training and education programs provided for in this section.

B. Employees training for positions critical to the safety of the public shall be eligible to execute a promissory note for training expenses payable to the agency whereby the employee promises to repay the note by remaining in employment with the agency for at least one (1) year. The duration of the loan repayment will correspond with the program in which the employee participated as set forth in rules promulgated for the implementation of this section.

C. The amount due pursuant to this section shall be reduced at a rate of Thirteen Dollars (\$13.00) per calendar day beginning the first day after graduation from the education or training program. If for any reason the employee leaves the employment of the Department, the obligation will be considered due.

D. Violation of the provisions of the terms of the promissory note for training expenses entered into pursuant to this section shall give rise to a cause of action and suit may be commenced by the agencies for and on behalf of the State of Oklahoma for restitution of any and all sums plus interest at the statutory rate, costs and reasonable attorney fees. The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons who volunteer, who are drafted into active military service subsequent to receiving training at state expense or who have been terminated prior to the obligation being fulfilled.

E. The agencies may pay fees for employees to maintain licenses and certification required to provide services essential to the mission of the agencies. The agencies may require repayment of such fees pursuant to subsection C of this section.

F. The Commissioner of Public Safety, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation Commission and the State Board of Corrections shall promulgate rules pursuant to the implementations of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

Passed the Senate the 13th day of March, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of April, 2019.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_