An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2036

By: Boatman of the House

and

Haste of the Senate

An Act relating to mental health workers; creating a revolving fund for the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority; creating a pilot program designed by the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority; providing purpose of pilot program; requiring preparation of certain report; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

SUBJECT: Mental health workers

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 3278.1 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority to be designated the "Oklahoma State University Medical Authority Behavioral Health Workforce Development Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of appropriated revenues and private endowments. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority for the purpose of designing and implementing a pilot program at behavioral health facilities, the purpose of which is to provide for behavioral health workforce development and access to behavioral health professionals as provided by law. The purpose of the pilot program includes, but is not limited to, bed conversion and new beds; renovations at behavioral health facilities to accommodate new licensed acute or residential treatment beds;

reallocation of beds from adult acute to child/adolescent acute beds; relocation assistance for licensed behavioral health staff currently living out of state; upskilling existing behavioral health workforce; adding new psychiatric residents; and creating a behavioral health trauma fund for intensive home and community-based services. Expenditures from 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 Oklahoma State University Medical Authority shall prepare a report for the Legislature on the results of the first year of funding, including the number of professionals retained and recruited, and the expected benefits of the program. The report shall be delivered to relevant health care committee and appropriations subcommittee chairs following the first full year of implementation.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

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

Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 20th day of April, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 24th

day of April, 20 23, at 4:23 o'clock p. M.

By: Amber Curry

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 28th

day of April, 20 23, at 11:18 o'clock a. M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 28th

day of April, 20 23, at 2:19 o'clock P. M.

By: Brian Bingman