

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL NO. 729

By: Rosino of the Senate

and

McBride and Echols of the
House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to the Oklahoma-Israel Exchange Commission; providing for legislative intent; providing for membership; prescribing terms; prescribing qualifications for certain members; providing for filling of vacancies; providing for removal of members; providing for frequency of meetings; prescribing quorum requirement; providing for creation of subcommittees; providing for retention of records; providing for staff assistance; imposing duties on Commission; requiring report; requiring recommendations; authorizing receipt of various revenues; providing for noncodification; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

1 A. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma-Israel
2 Exchange Commission foster cooperation between the people of Israel
3 and the people of Oklahoma on projects of mutual benefit, including
4 agriculture, industry, trade and commerce, energy research, and
5 education and cultural differences.

6 B. The Oklahoma State Legislature supports the reestablishment
7 of the Oklahoma-Israel Exchange Commission with the hope that this
8 economic initiative can achieve the greatest possible benefit for
9 the interest of the people of Israel and Oklahoma.

10 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 583 of Title 74, unless there is
12 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13 A. There is hereby reestablished the Oklahoma-Israel
14 Exchange Commission, which shall be located in Jerusalem. The
15 Commission shall consist of nine (9) members, to be appointed as
16 follows:

17 1. Two persons to be appointed by the Governor;

18 2. Two persons to be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma
19 House of Representatives;

20 3. Two persons to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
21 the Oklahoma State Senate;

22 4. A person to be appointed by the minority leader of the
23 Oklahoma House of Representatives;

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1 5. A person to be appointed by the minority leader of the
2 Oklahoma State Senate; and

3 6. A person to be appointed by the Executive Director of the
4 Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

5 B. The two members selected by the Governor, the Speaker of the
6 Oklahoma House of Representatives, and President Pro Tempore of the
7 Oklahoma State Senate, respectively, shall each be a representative
8 of either:

9 1. An Oklahoma public institution of higher learning;

10 2. The Israeli-American community in Oklahoma who is interested
11 in furthering trade between Oklahoma and Israel;

12 3. An Oklahoma industry engaged in or seeking to engage in
13 trade with Israel; or

14 4. An Oklahoma business association, trade organization,
15 economic development organization or chamber of commerce currently
16 engaged in or interested in engaging in the furtherance of trade
17 with Israel.

18 C. Legislative members shall serve for the two-year legislative
19 session in which they are appointed to the Commission and shall
20 remain members of the Legislature in order to retain membership on
21 the Commission. Vacancies of legislative members during a term
22 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment only
23 for the unexpired part of the term. The appointing authority for a
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1 legislative member may remove the member and substitute another
2 appointee for the member at any time. Members may be reappointed.

3 D. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original
4 appointment only for the unexpired part of the term.

5 E. The appointing authority for the member may remove the
6 member and substitute another appointee for the member at any time.

7 F. The Commission shall hold meetings at least once each
8 quarter. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chair.

9 G. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute
10 a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Commission.

11 H. The chair may appoint from among the Commission members
12 subcommittees and subcommittee chairs.

13 I. The Commission shall keep records of all proceedings, which
14 shall be public and open to inspection.

15 J. Staff assistance shall be provided by the Oklahoma House of
16 Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate.

17 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 583.1 of Title 74, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. The purpose of the Oklahoma-Israel Exchange Commission shall
21 be to advance, promote, and encourage business and other mutually
22 beneficial activities between Oklahoma and Israel, including:

- 23 1. Bilateral trade and investment;
- 24 2. Joint action on policy issues of mutual interest;

- 1 3. Business and academic exchanges;
- 2 4. Mutual economic support;
- 3 5. Mutual investment in the respective infrastructure; and
- 4 6. Other opportunities for mutual benefit and economic growth
- 5 as identified by the Commission.

6 B. The Commission shall report its findings, activities,
7 results, and recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the
8 Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of
9 the Oklahoma State Senate within one (1) year of its initial meeting
10 and by February 1 of each succeeding year for the activities of the
11 preceding calendar year. The report shall be in writing and may
12 include recommendations or proposed legislation as deemed
13 appropriate by the Commission to effectuate its purposes.

14 C. The Oklahoma-Israel Exchange Commission shall be authorized
15 to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising
16 events, alone, or with other groups, and accept gifts, grants, and
17 bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental
18 agencies, and public and private organizations and institutions, to
19 carry out its purposes.

20 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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