

RESOLUTION
CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY TASK FORCE
MAINTAIN CURRENT LAW PERTAINING TO WEAPONS ON HIGHER EDUCATION
AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER CAMPUSES

WHEREAS, gun violence at institutions of higher education and technology centers across the nation has resulted in the injury and death of many innocent victims; and

WHEREAS, the mental health of our students, faculty, and staff remains a top priority, and most suicides involve firearms, and measures that limit access to lethal weapons increase protection for individuals at risk of suicide; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education established the Campus Safety and Security Task Force in January 2013 to monitor and respond to safety and security policies, advocate prudent safety policies, and promote implementation of campus safety best practices on higher education and technology center campuses, among other priorities; and

WHEREAS, numerous higher education professional associations, including the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, American College Personnel Association, National Behavioral Intervention Team Association, and Association for Student Conduct Administration, have voiced opposition to concealed carry of weapons on campuses; and

WHEREAS, college and university police forces, campus safety personnel, and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators have voiced opposition to concealed carry of weapons on campuses; and

WHEREAS, under current law, Oklahoma campus presidents and technology center administrators can authorize who may carry weapons on campus, and the current law is working; and

WHEREAS, any proposed legislation that would change the current law regarding weapons on Oklahoma's higher education and technology center campuses is vigorously opposed by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Chancellor, the Campus Safety and Security Task Force, the presidents of all 25 state higher education system institutions, the State Director of CareerTech, and the superintendents of all 29 technology centers;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Campus Safety and Security Task Force respectfully requests that all necessary actions be taken by the Oklahoma Legislature to maintain the current law regarding weapons on higher education and technology center campuses.

Approved this 26th day of February, 2024.



Chancellor Allison D. Garrett, Chair
Campus Safety and Security Task Force



Brent Haken, State Director
Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education