RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

A. Brief description of the purpose of the proposed rule.

In 2001, the Oklahoma Legislature passed HB 1178 (now 70 O.S. § 2620, et seq.), the "1921 Tulsa Race Riot Reconciliation Act of 2001," which created the Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Program (TRESP). The proposed permanent rule revisions would allow the State Regents to designate Langston University – Tulsa (LU-Tulsa) administrators to coordinate the application process for the TRESP. The revisions would authorize the President of Langston University, or designee, to organize an advisory committee of Tulsa community representatives to review applications and recommend scholarship recipients to the State Regents. The revisions to the use of lineal descendence changes descendence to a preference factor required for consideration when two conditions are met: 1) the applicant is eligible for the scholarship according to the requirements already present at OAC 610:25-29-4(b)(3)(A) & (B), and 2) when the requirements at OAC 610:25-29-4(b)(3)(A) & (B) prove inadequate to narrow the pool of applicants sufficiently.

B. Description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the costs of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities.

The proposed rule changes will affect the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Oklahoma Historical Society, Langston University, the Tulsa community, and TRESP applicants. According to 70 O.S. § 2623(C), "The Oklahoma Historical Society shall verify the authenticity and accuracy of the documentation submitted by an applicant and shall establish the boundaries of the Greenwood Area." No information on cost impacts has been received from any private or public entities.

C. Description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule.

The proposed rule changes will benefit the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Langston University, Tulsa Public Schools, the Tulsa community, and TRESP applicants; all of whom will benefit from Tulsa community input regarding TRESP recipient selection.

D. Description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change.

The proposed rule changes should have positive economic impacts on TRESP applicants. TRESP applicants should benefit from increased Tulsa community input regarding recipient selection that may in turn yield scholarship awards. There are no fees involved.

E. Probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency.

An "agency" under the Administrative Procedures Act includes, but is not limited to, "any constitutionally or statutorily created state board, bureau, commission, office, authority, public trust in which the state is
a beneficiary, or interstate commission..." 75 O.S. § 250.3. The proposed rule changes will benefit the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Langston University; both will benefit from Tulsa community input regarding TRESP recipient selection. The Oklahoma Historical Society may incur costs related to their duties under 70 O.S. § 2623(C). According to 70 O.S. § 2623(C), "The Oklahoma Historical Society shall verify the authenticity and accuracy of the documentation submitted by an applicant and shall establish the boundaries of the Greenwood Area."

F. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule.

A "political subdivision" is defined as "a county, city, incorporated town or school district within this state" under the Administrative Procedures Act. 75 O.S. § 250.3. The proposed rules are not expected to have an economic impact on any political subdivisions. Among others, the advisory committee shall include the Superintendent of Tulsa Public Schools, or designee, whose cooperation will be required to implement this rule.

G. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse economic effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

After consideration with reference to Section 303(A)(4) and 303(B)(6) of Title 75, it is believed that the proposed rules will have no adverse impact upon Small Business.

H. Explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education will work with the Oklahoma Historical Society to minimize the administrative costs associated with this rule.

I. Determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk.

The proposed rules will have no effect on the public health, safety, and environment.

J. Determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented.

No effect on the public health, safety, or the environment will result if the proposed rules are not implemented.

K. Date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified.