

STATE NEWS WEEKLY SUMMARY CONTINUED

The new law directs the State Department of Public Safety to deny a new driver's license application or revoke an existing driver's license — for a minimum of two months — whenever anyone younger than 18 cannot prove that he or she is enrolled in a public or private secondary school or vocational-technical school, is home schooled, has graduated from school or is enrolled in a general equivalency degree program.

Submitting false information about a student's school attendance will be a misdemeanor crime.

In a related vein, HB2692 will require schools to offer alternative education programs for disobedient and non-violent delinquent students.

HB2692 directs the State Board of Education to phase in alternative education programs in schools throughout the state over the next five years.

Implementing these programs ultimately will cost an estimated \$30 million, Benson said. The Legislature appropriated \$6.4 million to introduce the project in 100 school districts during the next school year, he added.

HB2692 also allows the Juvenile Justice Department to contract with private service providers to create jobs that will enable juvenile lawbreakers to make restitution to their victims. At least 75 percent of a juvenile lawbreaker's net earnings from a job will be earmarked for restitution, the bill decrees.

The bill stipulates that a supervised work program must not interfere with the child's schooling.

—HOUSE MEDIA
05/30/96

EDUCATION

USAO REGENTS DISCUSS BRIGHT FUNDING PROSPECTS

■(CHICKASHA) Prospects for better funding in state appropriations were discussed this week when the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Board of Regents met to consider a light agenda of business. USAO President Roy Troutt, in his monthly report to the board, outlined the State Legislature's announced plans to put \$71 million new dollars into the State System of Higher Education.

Troutt also discussed USAO's advancing telecommunications projects. He intro-

duced Dr. Alan Todd, who completed a Telecommunication Training Institute at Oklahoma State University earlier this month. Todd shared insights on "distance learning" and how USAO might maximize the use of its new interactive-video-classroom under construction in Nash Library.

USAO's new telecom classroom will serve numerous functions in delivering and receiving educational programs from across the state. Scheduled for completion in July, the classroom is important for USAO, which has been designated as one of 33 hubsites across the state to send and receive courses and other programs.

Troutt also recognized Regent Loretta Jackson, who was named recently to the Democratic Women's Hall of Fame in Oklahoma.

In other business, Regents approved a revised Student Association Constitution.

Regents also approved a revised Student Handbook.

New to the handbook this year is a statement on academic progress and a policy banning handguns, which was enacted by the school following a new state law allowing concealed weapons for licensed individuals.

Regents learned that a new member has been named by Gov. Frank Keating to the USAO Board. Former Chickasha resident Beverly Carter, now of Oklahoma City, will join the board in July. She will fill a vacancy to be left by Regent Lillian Boland, who is completing nine years of service.

In personnel matters, the board approved the retirement of Dr. Pauline Hook, associate professor of speech pathology, and the appointment of Allison Fahsl as special adjunct faculty member in education.

Regents also approved the reappointment of Vaughn Groom, instructor in computer science, and the appointment of Jeffery Martin, student life counselor and intramural sports coordinator.

Eleven members of the physical plant staff were reappointed for 1996-97: Earl

"What is politics but persuading the public to vote for this and support that and endure these for the promise of those?"

Gilbert Highet
"The Art of Persuasion"
Vogue, Jan. 1951

Brumley, Esta Hatchett, Linda Helms, William Ingle, Lawana Jackson, Robert Jones, Brenda Short, Sheila Smith, Harold Talbert, Lonnie Travis and Alva Turner.

Two members of the food services department were reappointed: Yvonne Christian and June Rankin.

—USAO
05/30/96

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

SENATE AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CONFIRMS EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

■(GIT) Tuesday, in the eighth meeting of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, the following executive nominations were considered.

Kurtis L. Atkinson of Edmond was appointed to the State Board of Registration for Foresters. He will serve a five year term ending June 1, 2000. Atkinson is sponsored by Sen. Mark Synder, R-Edmond.

Donald Herron of Idabel was appointed to the State Board of Registration for Foresters. He will serve a five year term ending June 1, 1999. Herron is sponsored by Sen. Jack Bell, D-Idabel.

Tommy Joe Jackson of Antlers was appointed to the State Board of Registration for Foresters. He will serve an un-expired term ending June 1, 1996. Jackson succeeds David Robinson and is also sponsored by Bell.

William Verdo Hooker of Ada was appointed to the State Board of Registration for Foresters. He will serve a five year term ending June 1, 1998. Verdo succeeds Paul Roeber and is sponsored by Sen. Dick Wilkerson, D-Atwood.

All nominees were confirmed unanimously and will go before the full Senate for final confirmation.

—STAFF WRITERS
05/28/96

THE SENATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CONFIRMS ONE

■(GIT) In a committee meeting Tuesday, Senate Economic Development members confirmed one appointee.

The executive nomination for Barbara Gardner of Tulsa, to Oklahoma Futures is

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