

Legislative Report August 2016

The BMITE legislative committee would like to encourage all to become more aware of legislative issues and contact legislators to visit your schools and classrooms. Also, plan a visit/meeting with students at the capitol. The committee is also looking for new ideas to increase involvement and membership. OkACTE Director Skye McNeil has been working very close with legislators. Each OkACTE member should be receiving a weekly wrap up from Director Skye.

FY 2017 State Budget: The general appropriations (GA) bill, [SB 1616](#), passed the Senate by a [vote of 30-16](#) and passed the House by a [vote of 52-45](#). The measure was approved by Governor Fallin earlier this month. Total appropriations for FY 2017 are \$6.778 billion. [According to the OK Policy Institute](#), appropriations are \$360 million (5%) less than the initial FY 2016 budget and \$115 million (1.7%) less than the final FY 2016 budget after mid-year budget cuts and supplemental appropriations. Adjusted for inflation, the FY 2017 budget is \$1.21 billion, or 15.2%, below FY 2009.

- The State Board of Education is appropriated \$2,426,721,434 for FY17, which is equivalent to revised FY 16 appropriations, but a 2.34% decrease from the original FY16 budget.
- The State Board of Career and Technology Education is appropriated \$114,916,599 from the general revenue (GR) fund—an 11.65% decrease from the original FY16 budget and a 5.3% decrease from the revised FY16 budget.
- Total appropriation for the ad valorem reimbursement fund is \$47,074,091.
- Lawmakers included a \$26 million increase in flexible benefit allowance (FBA) costs in the FY17 budget.