STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 2235 By: Russ

4

1

2

3

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to marriage licenses; amending 28 O.S. 2011, Sections 31 and 152.4, which relate to fees; modifying fee; providing fee for recording marriage certificate or affidavit of common law marriage; deleting marriage license fee collection procedure; amending 43 O.S. 2011, Sections 3, 5.1, 7, 8, 9, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 278, O.S.L. 2012 and 15 (43 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 9), which relate to marriage; deleting reference to marriage license; describing procedure when written permission is required for marriage; directing permission be retained by official or affixed to affidavit; providing reduced marriage certificate fee if premarital counseling is completed; providing exception; allowing assemblies with no ordained minister to solemnize marriages; allowing affidavit of common law marriage; providing for filing of affidavit with court clerk; listing contents of affidavit; requiring execution of marriage certificate; listing contents of certificate; directing filing of certificate with court clerk; instructing court clerk to record certificate or affidavit; setting forth procedures for recording and recordkeeping; requiring entity to accept certificate or affidavit as proof of identity or marital status; providing applicability; construing provision; providing punishment for judge or clerk recording prohibited marriage certificate; providing statutory form for marriage certificate; repealing 43 O.S. 2011, Sections 4, 5, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2013, 6, 10, 19 and 36 (43 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 5), which relate to marriage; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
2	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 28 O.S. 2011, Section 31, is
3	amended to read as follows:
4	Section 31. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
5	clerk of the district court, or the clerk of any other court of
6	record, shall charge and collect the following fees for services by
7	them respectively rendered and none others, except as otherwise
8	provided by law:
9	Approving bond or undertaking, including
10	certificate and seal\$3.00
11	Making copy of an instrument of record or
12	on file, first page\$1.00
13	subsequent pages (each)\$0.50
14	Certifying to any instrument (each)\$0.50
15	Authentication of court records\$5.00
16	Receiving and paying out money in
17	pursuance of law or order of court1%
18	provided, however, that such charge
19	shall not exceed \$300.00.
20	Application, issuing, entering return and
21	recording Recording marriage license
22	certificate if the applicants submit a
23	certificate that states the applicants
24	have completed the premarital counseling

1	program pursuant to Section 5.1 of Title
2	43 of the Oklahoma Statutes\$5.00
3	Application, issuing, entering return and
4	recording Recording marriage license
5	certificate if the applicants do not
6	submit a certificate that states the
7	applicants have completed the premarital
8	counseling program pursuant to Section
9	5.1 of Title 43 of the Oklahoma Statutes
10	or recording affidavit of common law
11	marriage\$50.00
12	Conveyance of full-blood Indian heirs to
13	interest in inherited lands, same to be
14	accounted for as other fees\$5.00
15	Posting notice outside the courthouse\$10.00
16	Mailing, by any type of mail, writs,
17	warrants, orders, process, command or
18	notice for each person\$10.00, or
19	actual expense, whichever is greater,
20	except ordinary mailing of first-class
21	mail in probate cases, for each case\$10.00, or
22	actual expense, whichever is greater.
23	For the actual cost of all postage in each
24	case in excess of

```
1
          actual expense, whichever is greater.
 2
        For filing and indexing of disclaimers
          other than in pending probate or civil
 3
 4
          cases pursuant to the provisions of
 5
          Section 751 et seq. of Title 60 of the
 6
          Oklahoma Statutes.....$5.00
                       AMENDATORY 28 O.S. 2011, Section 152.4, is
 7
        SECTION 2.
    amended to read as follows:
 8
 9
        Section 152.4 In any proceeding for issuance of a license other
10
    than a marriage license, the court clerk shall collect at the time
11
    of filing the application for said license, court costs in the same
12
    amounts as required in civil cases in addition to other fees
13
    prescribed by law.
14
                                      43 O.S. 2011, Section 3, is
        SECTION 3.
                       AMENDATORY
15
    amended to read as follows:
16
        Section 3. A. Any unmarried person who is at least eighteen
17
    (18) years of age and not otherwise disqualified is capable of
18
    contracting and consenting to marriage with a person of the opposite
19
    <del>sex</del>.
20
            1. Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, no
21
    person under the age of eighteen (18) years shall enter into the
22
    marriage relation, nor shall any license issue therefor, except:
```

23

24

1

- a. upon the consent and authority expressly given by the parent or guardian of such underage applicant in the presence of the authority issuing such license person,
- b. upon the written consent of the parent or guardian of such underage applicant person executed and acknowledged in person before a judge of the district court or the court clerk of any county within the State of Oklahoma,
- c. if the parent or guardian resides outside of the State of Oklahoma, upon the written consent of the parent or guardian executed before a judge or clerk of a court of record. The executed foreign consent shall be duly authenticated in the same manner as proof of documents from foreign jurisdictions,
- d. if the certificate of a duly licensed medical doctor or osteopath, acknowledged in the manner provided by law for the acknowledgment of deeds, and stating that such parent or guardian is unable by reason of health or incapacity to be present in person, is presented to such licensing authority, upon the written consent of the parent or guardian, acknowledged in the same manner as the accompanying medical certificate,
- e. if the parent or guardian is on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States, upon the written

permission of the parent or guardian, acknowledged in the manner provided by law for acknowledgment of deeds by military personnel authorized to administer oaths. Such permission shall be presented to the licensing authority, accompanied by a certificate executed by a commissioned officer in command of the applicant person, to the effect that the parent or guardian is on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, or

- f. upon affidavit of three (3) reputable persons stating that both parents of the minor are deceased, or mentally incompetent, or their whereabouts are unknown to the minor, and that no guardian has theretofore been appointed for the minor. The judge of the district court issuing the license may in his or her discretion consent to the marriage in the same manner as in all cases in which consent may be given by a parent or guardian.
- 2. Every person under the age of sixteen (16) years is expressly forbidden and prohibited from entering into the marriage relation except when authorized by the court:
 - a. in settlement of a suit for seduction or paternity, or
 - b. if the unmarried female is pregnant, or has given birth to an illegitimate child and at least one parent

of each minor, or the guardian or custodian of such child, is present before the court and has an opportunity to present evidence in the event such parent, guardian, or custodian objects to the issuance of a marriage license. If they are not present the parent, guardian, or custodian may be given notice of the hearing at the discretion of the court.

- 3. A parent or a guardian of any child under the age of eighteen (18) years who is in the custody of the Department of Human Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice shall not be eligible to consent to the marriage of such minor child as required by the provisions of this subsection.
- 4. Any certificate or written permission required by this subsection shall be retained by the official issuing performing the marriage license ceremony or affixed to the affidavit of common law marriage.
- C. No marriage may be authorized when such marriage would be incestuous under this chapter.
- SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 5.1, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 5.1 A. The clerk of the district court shall reduce the fee for <u>recording</u> a marriage <u>license</u> <u>certificate</u> as prescribed by Section 31 of Title 28 of the Oklahoma Statutes to persons who

Req. No. 6872 Page 7

- 1 have successfully completed a premarital counseling program meeting 2 the conditions specified by this section.
- 1. A premarital counseling program shall be conducted by a 3 В. 4 health professional, an official representative of a religious 5 institution, or a person trained by the principal authors or duly authorized agents of the principal authors of nationally recognized 6 7 marriage education curriculum including, but not limited to, Prevention & Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP). Upon 8 successful completion of the program, the counseling program 10 provider shall issue to the persons a certificate signed by the instructor of the counseling program. The certificate shall state 11 12 that the named persons have successfully completed the premarital 13 counseling requirements. A minimum of four (4) hours of education 14 or counseling shall be necessary for successful completion of the 15 marriage education curriculum.
 - 2. For purposes of this subsection, the term "health professional" means a person licensed or certified by this state to practice psychiatry or psychology; a licensed social worker with experience in marriage counseling; a licensed marital and family therapist; or a licensed professional counselor.
 - SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 7, is amended to read as follows:

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

Section 7. A. All Except as provided in subsection E of this

section, marriages must be contracted by a formal ceremony performed

or solemnized in the presence of at least two adult, competent persons as witnesses, by a judge or retired judge of any court in this state, or an ordained or authorized preacher or minister of the Gospel, priest or other ecclesiastical dignitary of any denomination who has been duly ordained or authorized by the church to which he or she belongs to preach the Gospel, or a rabbi and who is at least eighteen (18) years of age.

- B. 1. The judge shall place his or her order of appointment on file with the office of the court clerk of the county in which he or she resides.
- 2. The preacher, minister, priest, rabbi, or ecclesiastical dignitary who is a resident of this state shall have filed, in the office of the court clerk of the county in which he or she resides, a copy of the credentials or authority from his or her church or synagogue authorizing him or her to solemnize marriages.
- 3. The preacher, minister, priest, rabbi, or ecclesiastical dignitary who is not a resident of this state, but has complied with the laws of the state of which he or she is a resident, shall have filed once, in the office of the court clerk of the county in which he or she intends to perform or solemnize a marriage, a copy of the credentials or authority from his or her church or synagogue authorizing him or her to solemnize marriages.
- 4. The filing by resident or nonresident preachers, ministers, priests, rabbis, ecclesiastical dignitaries or judges shall be

effective in and for all counties of this state; provided, no fee shall be charged for such recording.

- C. No person herein authorized to perform or solemnize a marriage ceremony shall do so unless the license issued therefor be first delivered into his or her possession nor unless he or she has good reason to believe the persons presenting themselves before him or her for marriage are the identical persons named in the license, and for whose marriage the same was issued, and that if there is no a legal objection or impediment to such marriage.
- D. Marriages between persons belonging to the society called Friends, or Quakers, the spiritual assembly of the Baha'is, or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, or other assemblies which have no ordained minister, may be solemnized by the persons and in the manner prescribed by and practiced in any such society, church, or assembly.
- E. Beginning November 1, 2019, marriages not contracted by a formal ceremony pursuant to subsection A of this section may be acknowledged by filing an affidavit of common law marriage with the court clerk. The affidavit of common law marriage shall be signed by both parties, notarized with official seal affixed and include:
 - 1. The place of residence of each party;
- 2. The full legal name and age of each party as they appear upon or are calculable from a certified copy of the birth certificate, the current driver license or identification card, the

- current passport or visa, or any other certificate, license or

 document issued by or existing pursuant to the laws of any nation or

 of any state, or political subdivision thereof, accepted as proof of

 identity and age;
 - 3. The full name by which each party will be known after the common law marriage, which shall become the full legal name of the party upon the filing of the affidavit of common law marriage; and
 - 4. That the parties are not disqualified from or incapable of entering into a common law marriage.
 - SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 8, is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 8. A. The person performing or solemnizing the marriage ceremony shall, immediately upon the completion of the ceremony, endorse upon the license execute a marriage certificate provided in Section 9 of this act authorizing the marriage and containing the following information:
 - 1. The place of residence of each party;

2. The full legal name and age of each party as they appear

upon or are calculable from a certified copy of the birth

certificate, the current driver license or identification card, the

current passport or visa, or any other certificate, license or

document issued by or existing pursuant to the laws of any nation or

of any state, or political subdivision thereof, accepted as proof of

identity and age;

3. The full name by which each party will be known after the marriage, which shall become the full legal name of the party upon the filing of the marriage certificate;

- 4. That the parties are not disqualified from or incapable of entering into marriage;
 - 5. His or her name and official or clerical designation;
- 2. 6. The court of which he or she is the judge, or the congregation or body of which he or she is pastor, preacher, minister, priest, rabbi or dignitary of a recognized assembly; provided, that the authority to perform or solemnize marriages shall be coextensive with the congregation or body of which he or she is pastor, preacher, minister, priest, rabbi or dignitary of a recognized assembly; provided further, that all marriages solemnized among the society called Friends or Quakers, the spiritual assembly of the Baha'is, or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or other assemblies which have no ordained minister, in the form heretofore practiced and in use in their meetings shall be good and valid. One person chosen by such society, assembly, or church shall be responsible for completing the marriage certificate pursuant to this section in the same manner as a minister or other person authorized to perform marriages;
- $\frac{3.7.}{7.}$ The town or city and county where the court, congregation, body, society, assembly, or church is located; and

4.8. His or her signature along with his or her official or clerical designation.

- B. The witnesses to the ceremony shall endorse the marriage certificate, attesting to their presence at the ceremony, with their names and post office addresses.
- C. The persons who have been married in the ceremony shall endorse the marriage certificate with the names by which they are to be known from the time of the marriage, as evidenced on the marriage license.
- D. The marriage license, along with the completed marriage certificate shall be transmitted without delay to the judge or the court clerk who issued the license and shall file the marriage certificate.
- SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 9, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 278, O.S.L. 2012 (43 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 9), is amended to read as follows:
- Section 9. A. The judge or clerk of the district court issuing recording any marriage license certificate or affidavit of common law marriage shall make a complete record of the application, license, and certificate thereon, or affidavit on an optical disc, microfilm, microfiche, imaging, in a book kept by the judge or clerk for that purpose, properly indexed, or by electronic means using any method approved by the Supreme Court; and the record of the license shall be made before it is delivered to the person procuring the

```
1
    same, and the record of the certificate or affidavit shall be made
    upon the return of the license filing; provided, that all records
 2
 3
    pertaining to the issuance of such license marriage certificates or
 4
    affidavits of common law marriage shall be open to public inspection
 5
    during office hours; provided further, that after recording of the
    original <del>license and completed</del> certificate or affidavit as
 6
 7
    hereinbefore required, it shall be returned to the persons to whom
    the same was issued who filed it, with the issuing officer's court
 8
 9
    clerk's certificate affixed thereon showing the book and page or
10
    case number where the same has been recorded.
```

B. Any entity requiring proof of identity or marital status shall accept a certified copy of the marriage certificate or affidavit of common law marriage that has been filed with the court clerk. Any reference in the Oklahoma Statutes requiring a marriage license as proof of identity or marital status shall be interpreted to include a marriage certificate or affidavit of common law marriage executed on or after November 1, 2019.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

- C. Nothing provided in this section shall be construed to invalidate a marriage license issued by the court clerk prior to November 1, 2019.
- 21 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 15, is 22 amended to read as follows:
- Section 15. Any judge of the district court, or clerk of the district court, knowingly issuing recording any marriage license,

1	<u>certificate</u> or concealing any record thereof, contrary to the
2	provisions of this chapter, or any person knowingly performing or
3	solemnizing the marriage ceremony contrary to any of the provisions
4	of this chapter $_{m{ au}}$ shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon
5	conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than One
6	Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars
7	(\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail not less than
8	thirty (30) days nor more than one (1) year or by both such fine and
9	imprisonment.
10	SECTION 9. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
11	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8.1 of Title 43, unless there is
12	created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
13	A. The following statutory form of marriage certificate as
14	authorized by Section 8 of Title 43 of the Oklahoma Statutes is
15	legally sufficient:
16	STATUTORY FORM FOR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE
17	In the District Court of
18	County
19	I hereby certify that I
20	(Name of official solemnizing marriage)
21	of
22	(Official or Clerical Designation) (Congregation or Religious Group)
23	of, in County, State of Oklahoma
24	(City) (County)

1	joined in marriage:
2	
3	(Full name of party as it appears on birth certificate or other
4	government-issued identification card)
5	of, County of
6	(City of residence) (County of residence)
7	State of, age years
8	(State of residence) (age of party)
9	and
LO	
1	(Full name of party as it appears on birth certificate or other
L2	government-issued identification card)
L3	of, County of
L 4	(City of residence) (County of residence)
L 5	State of, age years
L 6	(State of residence) (age of party)
L7	on the, 20 at,
L 8	State of Oklahoma, in the presence of witnesses who have endorsed
L 9	this Certificate below.
20	My credentials or authority to solemnize marriage are recorded in
21	Minister's Credentials Case No or Book at
22	page of County, Oklahoma.
23	
24	(Signature of Official Solemnizing Marriage Ceremony)

1				
2	(Official or Clerical Designation)			
3	In witness thereof, we hereby attest	that	we were present	at the
4	ceremony referenced above:			
5		of _		
6	(Witness)		(City)	(State)
7		of _		
8	(Witness)		(City)	(State)
9				
LO	First Spouse's Full Name To Be Known	As		
L1			_	
L2	First Spouse's Signature (sign full n	name	to be known as,	exactly as
L3	above)			
L 4		_		
L5	Second Spouse's Full Name To Be Known	n As		
. 6			-	
.7	Second Spouse's Signature (sign full	name	e to be known as,	exactly as
. 8	above)			
L 9	This Marriage Certificate was filed w	ith	the Court Clerk's	office,
20	where it was recorded in Marriage Rec	cord	Book at Pag	ge
21	or in Case # on the	da	ay of	, 20
22	, Court Cl	erk	of	County
23	Ву			
24	(Court Clerk or Deputy)			

```
1
            The power of attorney is legally sufficient under this act,
 2
    if the wording of the form complies substantially with subsection A
 3
    of this section, the form is properly completed, and the signatures
 4
    of the parties are acknowledged.
 5
        SECTION 10.
                        REPEALER
                                      43 O.S. 2011, Sections 4, 5, as
 6
    amended by Section 1, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2013, 6, 10, 19 and 36 (43
 7
    O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 5), are hereby repealed.
 8
        SECTION 11. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
 9
10
        57-1-6872
                               12/27/18
                       ΕK
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 1276 By: Lawson
4	
5	
6	<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>
7	An Act relating to marriage; amending 43 O.S. 2011,
8	Sections 109 and 110.1, which relate to child custody; requiring court to comply with specified law
9	<pre>in determining custody; requiring equally shared parenting time if requested by a parent; providing exception for best interests of the child; directing</pre>
10	maximization of time with each parent if deviation is warranted; and providing an effective date.
11	wallanted, and providing an effective date.
12	
13	
14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
15	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 109, is
16	amended to read as follows:
17	Section 109. A. In awarding the custody of a minor unmarried
18	child or in appointing a general guardian for said child, the court
19	shall consider what appears to be in the best interests of the
20	physical and mental and moral welfare of the child.
21	B. The court, pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of
22	this section and Section 110.1 of this title, may grant the care,
23	custody, and control of a child to either parent or to the parents
24	jointly.

For the purposes of this section, the terms joint custody and joint care, custody, and control mean the sharing by parents in all or some of the aspects of physical and legal care, custody, and control of their children.

- C. If either or both parents have requested joint custody, said parents shall file with the court their plans for the exercise of joint care, custody, and control of their child. The parents of the child may submit a plan jointly, or either parent or both parents may submit separate plans. Any plan shall include but is not limited to provisions detailing the physical living arrangements for the child, child support obligations, medical and dental care for the child, school placement, and visitation rights. A plan shall be accompanied by an affidavit signed by each parent stating that said parent agrees to the plan and will abide by its terms. The plan and affidavit shall be filed with the petition for a divorce or legal separation or after said petition is filed.
- D. The court shall issue a final plan for the exercise of joint care, custody, and control of the child or children, based upon the plan submitted by the parents, separate or jointly, with appropriate changes deemed by the court to be in the best interests of the child. The court also may reject a request for joint custody and proceed as if the request for joint custody had not been made.
- E. The parents having joint custody of the child may modify the terms of the plan for joint care, custody, and control. The

- modification to the plan shall be filed with the court and included
 with the plan. If the court determines the modifications are in the
 best interests of the child, the court shall approve the
 modifications.
 - F. The court also may modify the terms of the plan for joint care, custody, and control upon the request of one parent. The court shall not modify the plan unless the modifications are in the best interests of the child.

- G. 1. The court may terminate a joint custody decree upon the request of one or both of the parents or whenever the court determines said decree is not in the best interests of the child.
- 2. Upon termination of a joint custody decree, the court shall proceed and issue a modified decree for the care, custody, and control of the child as if no such joint custody decree had been made.
- H. In the event of a dispute between the parents having joint custody of a child as to the interpretation of a provision of said plan, the court may appoint an arbitrator to resolve said dispute. The arbitrator shall be a disinterested person knowledgeable in domestic relations law and family counseling. The determination of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties to the proceedings until further order of the court.

If a parent refuses to consent to arbitration, the court may terminate the joint custody decree.

- I. 1. In every proceeding in which there is a dispute as to the custody of a minor child, a determination by the court that domestic violence, stalking, or harassment has occurred raises a rebuttable presumption that sole custody, joint legal or physical custody, or any shared parenting plan with the perpetrator of domestic violence, harassing or stalking behavior is detrimental and not in the best interest of the child, and it is in the best interest of the child to reside with the parent who is not a perpetrator of domestic violence, harassing or stalking behavior.
 - 2. For the purposes of this subsection:

1.3

2.1

- a. "domestic violence" means the threat of the infliction of physical injury, any act of physical harm or the creation of a reasonable fear thereof, or the intentional infliction of emotional distress by a parent or a present or former member of the household of the child, against the child or another member of the household, including coercive control by a parent involving physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, economic or financial abuse,
- b. "stalking" means the willful course of conduct by a parent who repeatedly follows or harasses another person as defined in Section 1173 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and

c. "harassment" means a knowing and willful course or pattern of conduct by a parent directed at another parent which seriously alarms or is a nuisance to the person, and which serves no legitimate purpose including, but not limited to, harassing or obscene telephone calls or conduct that would cause a reasonable person to have a fear of death or bodily injury.

1.3

- 3. If a parent is absent or relocates as a result of an act of domestic violence by the other parent, the absence or relocation shall not be a factor that weighs against the parent in determining custody or visitation.
- 4. The court shall consider, as a primary factor, the safety and well-being of the child and of the parent who is the victim of domestic violence or stalking behavior, in addition to other facts regarding the best interest of the child.
- 5. The court shall consider the history of the parent causing physical harm, bodily injury, assault, verbal threats, stalking, or harassing behavior, or the fear of physical harm, bodily injury, or assault to another person, including the minor child, in determining issues regarding custody and visitation.
- SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 110.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 110.1 A. It is the policy of this state to assure that minor children have frequent and continuing contact with parents who have shown the ability to act in the best interests of their children and to encourage parents to share in the rights and responsibilities of rearing their children after the parents have separated or dissolved their marriage, provided that the parents agree to cooperate and that domestic violence, stalking, or harassing behaviors as defined in Section 109 of this title are not present in the parental relationship.

B. To effectuate this policy, if requested by a parent, the court may shall provide substantially equal access equally shared parenting time to the minor children to both parents at a temporary order hearing, unless the court finds that shared parenting time would not be detrimental to in the best interests of the child. If a deviation from shared parenting time is warranted, the court shall approve a parenting plan which maximizes the time each parent has with the child and is consistent with the best interests of the child.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

57-1-5098 EK 01/12/19

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 2013 By: Nollan
4	
5	
6	<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>
7	An Act relating to parents with disabilities;
8	creating the Persons with Disabilities Right to Parent Act; defining terms; requiring compliance with
9	specified laws prior to action that could impact parental rights of a person with a disability; requiring Department of Human Services to make
10	reasonable efforts to avoid removal of child; providing for referrals and reasonable
11	accommodations; prohibiting denial of reunification services solely on basis of parental disability;
12	prescribing court to issue certain findings; banning child-placing agency from denying person the right to
13	pursue adoption without certain considerations; prohibiting Department from denying person the right
14	to access services; construing provision; requiring assessments to take certain information into account;
15	specifying who shall conduct the assessments; providing for codification; and providing an
16	effective date.
17	
18	
19	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
20	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2021 of Title 25, unless there
22	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
23	A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Persons
24	with Disabilities Right to Parent Act".

B. As used in the Persons with Disabilities Right to Parent Act:

- 1. "Adaptive parenting equipment" means equipment or any other item that is used to increase, maintain or improve the parenting capabilities of a person with a disability;
- 2. "Adaptive parenting techniques" means strategies for accomplishing childcare and other parenting tasks that enable persons with disabilities to execute a task safely for themselves and their children alone or in conjunction with adaptive parenting equipment;
- 3. "Child custody proceeding" means a proceeding in court in which a third party is seeking to be awarded temporary or permanent legal or physical custody of a child, to obtain legal guardianship of a child or to limit or deny visitation of a parent or legal guardian, including an action filed by the other parent;
- 4. "Child protection proceeding" means a proceeding in court provided for in the Oklahoma Children's Code relating to protection of children from abuse or neglect, access to services and other support for parents to preserve or reunify the family and permanency planning for children whose parents are unable or unwilling to parent adequately;
- 5. "Child-placing agency" means an agency that arranges for or places a child in a foster family home, group home, adoptive home or a successful adulthood program;

- 6. "Covered entity" has the same meaning as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended;
 - 7. "Department" means the Department of Human Services;

- 8. "Disability" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual, a record of an impairment, or being regarded as having an impairment, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and as interpreted broadly under that act. An individual who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs or the abuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances is not an individual with a "disability" for purposes of this act; and
- 9. "Supportive services" means services that help a person with a disability compensate for those aspects of the disability that affect the ability to care for a child and that enable the person to fulfill parental responsibilities including, but not limited to, specialized or adaptive training, evaluations and assistance with effective use of adaptive equipment, and accommodations that enable a person with a disability to benefit from other services, such as braille text or sign language interpretation.
- SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2022 of Title 25, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- A. The Department of Human Services, courts and any other covered entity shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities

Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Fourteenth Amendment before taking any action that could impact the parental rights of a person with a disability.

1.3

- B. 1. The Department shall, consistent with its purposes:
 - a. make reasonable efforts, that are individualized and based upon the specific disability of a parent or legal guardian, to avoid removal of a child from the home of a parent or legal guardian with a disability, including referrals for access to adaptive parenting equipment, referrals for instruction on adaptive parenting techniques and reasonable accommodations with regard to accessing services that are otherwise made available to a parent or legal guardian who does not have a disability, and
 - b. make reasonable accommodations to a parent or legal guardian with a disability as part of placement and visitation decisions; preventive, maintenance and reunification services; and evaluations or assessments of parenting capacity.
- 2. The Department, and any other covered entity, shall not deny reunification services to a parent or legal guardian with a disability solely on the basis of the disability.
- C. If any party to the proceedings alleges that the parent or legal guardian has a disability that affects the ability of the

parent or legal guardian to fulfill parental responsibilities, the court shall determine and include as findings in the probable cause order:

- 1. The nature of the parent or legal guardian's disability, if any, that affects the parent or legal guardian's ability to fulfill parental responsibilities;
- 2. The reasonable efforts made by the Department to avoid removal of the child from the parent or legal guardian, including reasonable efforts made to address the parenting limitations caused by the disability; and
- 3. Reasonable accommodations the Department, and any other covered entity, shall make to provide the parent or legal guardian with the opportunity to participate fully in the child protection proceedings throughout the duration of the case.
- SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2023 of Title 25, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- A. A child-placing agency shall not deny a person with a disability the right to pursue adoption of a child solely on the basis of the disability without considering whether adaptive parenting equipment, instruction in adaptive parenting techniques and other supportive services could enable the person to parent adequately.

The Department and any other covered entity that provides pre- or postadoption services shall not deny a person with a disability the right to access services solely on the basis of the disability without considering whether adaptive parenting equipment, instruction in adaptive parenting techniques and other supportive services could enable the person to parent adequately. SECTION 4. A new section of law to be codified NEW LAW in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2024 of Title 25, unless there

is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Nothing within the Persons with Disabilities Right to Parent Act shall be construed to allow discrimination on the basis of disability. In cases involving a parent with a disability, assessments under this act shall take into account the use of any accommodation including, but not limited to, adaptive parenting equipment, adaptive parenting techniques, assistive technology and support services, whether formal or informal, and shall be conducted by or with the assistance of one or more individuals who possess a combination of experience, training, expertise and knowledge in the use of the equipment, techniques and services.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

57-1-5565 01/10/19 ΕK

23

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

24

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 2616 By: Echols
4	
5	
6	AS INTRODUCED
7	An Act relating to child support; amending 43 O.S. 2011, Section 119.1, which relates to review of child
8	support guidelines; creating the Child Support Guidelines Review Committee; requiring at least
9	quadrennial review of child support guidelines and schedule; providing for membership of Committee;
LO	<pre>prohibiting compensation of members; providing for travel reimbursement and per diem; prescribing</pre>
L1	reimbursement methods; directing Committee to gather certain information and input; mandating Internet
L2	<pre>publication for public to access information about review; listing information to be included; requiring</pre>
L3	Committee to consider certain factors in review process; directing Committee to submit a report after
L 4	each review; setting deadline for review report; and specifying review report recipients.
L5	
L6	
L7	
L8	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
9	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 119.1, is
20	amended to read as follows:
21	Section 119.1 The A. To ensure that their application results
22	in the determination of appropriate child support award amounts, the
23	child support guidelines and schedule of basic child support
24	obligations shall be reviewed at least once every four (4) years by

Req. No. 7324 Page 1

1	+ h o	Tudiaiarr	Committees	\circ f	+ h a	Sanata	and	+ h o	Цолго	\circ f
_	CITE	dudicial y	COMMITCEES	$\overline{}$	CIIC	benate	and	CIIC	House	\overline{OI}

- 2 Representatives to ensure that their application results in the
- 3 determination of appropriate child support award amounts Child
- 4 | Support Guidelines Review Committee consisting of eleven (11)
- 5 members as follows:
- 6 1. Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Judiciary
- 7 Committees;

8

- 2. One Senator appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore;
- 9 3. One Representative appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 10 | Representatives;
- 11 4. The Director of the Department of Human Services or
- 12 designee;
- 5. One member of the Oklahoma Bar Association from the Title
- 14 | IV-D Child Support Program to be designated by the Director of the
- 15 | Department of Human Services;
- 16 6. One member of the judiciary appointed by the Senate
- 17 | President Pro Tempore;
- 7. One member of the judiciary appointed by the Speaker of the
- 19 House of Representatives;
- 20 8. One member appointed by the Governor;
- 9. One member of the Oklahoma Bar Association appointed by the
- 22 | Senate President Pro Tempore; and
- 23 10. One member of the Oklahoma Bar Association appointed by the
- 24 | Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Req. No. 7324 Page 2

B. Members of the Child Support Guidelines Review Committee shall serve without compensation for their services, except for reimbursement of necessary travel, lodging and per diem expenses while performing their duties. Members of state government shall receive reimbursement as provided by law, and other members shall be reimbursed by the Legislature for their travel, lodging and per diem expenses in accordance with Section 500.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

- C. The Child Support Guidelines Review Committee shall obtain the views and advice from the Title IV-D Child Support Program in the Department of Human Services, and provide for meaningful opportunity for public input, including input from low-income custodial and noncustodial parents and their representatives. The Committee shall publish on the Internet and make accessible to the public all aspects of the review, including the membership of the reviewing body, the effective date of the guidelines, and the date of the next quadrennial review.
- D. As part of the review of the state's child support quidelines, the Child Support Guidelines Review Committee shall:
- 1. Consider economic data on the cost of raising children;
 labor market data, such as unemployment rates, employment rates,
 hours worked and earnings, by occupation and skill-level for the
 state and local job markets; the impact of guidelines, policies and
 amounts on custodial and noncustodial parents who have family

Req. No. 7324 Page 3

incomes below two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty
level; and factors that influence employment rates among
noncustodial parents and compliance with child support orders;

- 2. Use analysis of case data, gathered through sampling or other methods, on the application of and deviations from the child support guidelines, as well as the rates of default and imputed child support orders and orders determined using a low-income adjustment that takes into consideration the basic subsistence needs of the noncustodial parent, custodial parent and children; and
- 3. Include a comparison of payments on child support orders by case characteristics, including whether the order was entered by default, based on imputed income, or determined using a low-income adjustment. The analysis of the data shall be used in the state's review of the child support guidelines to ensure that deviations from the guidelines are limited and guideline amounts are appropriate based on Section 118H of this title.
- E. The Child Support Guidelines Review Committee shall submit a report within sixty (60) days after each quadrennial review to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Director of Human Services.

57-1-7324 EK 01/14/19

Req. No. 7324 Page 4

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 2270 By: West (Josh)
4	
5	
6	AS INTRODUCED
7	An Act relating to children; amending 10 O.S. 2011, Section 7700-607, as amended by Section 1, Chapter
8	96, O.S.L. 2014 (10 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 7700-607), which relates to the Uniform Parentage Act; adding exception to limitations of paternity actions;
10	and providing an effective date.
11	
12	
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
14	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2011, Section 7700-607, as
15	amended by Section 1, Chapter 96, O.S.L. 2014 (10 O.S. Supp. 2018,
16	Section 7700-607), is amended to read as follows:
17	Section 7700-607. A. Except as otherwise provided in
18	subsection B <u>, C or D</u> of this section, a proceeding brought by a
19	presumed father, the mother, or another individual to adjudicate the
20	parentage of a child having a presumed father shall be commenced not
21	later than two (2) years after the birth of the child.
22	B. A proceeding seeking to disprove the father-child
23	relationship between a child and the child's presumed father may be
24	maintained at any time in accordance with Section 7700-608 of this

title if the court, prior to an order disproving the father-child relationship, determines that:

- 1. The presumed father and the mother of the child neither cohabited nor engaged in sexual intercourse with each other during the probable time of conception; and
- 2. The presumed father never openly held out the child as his own.
- C. A proceeding seeking to disprove the father-child relationship between a child and the child's presumed or acknowledged father may be maintained at any time if the court determines that the biological father, presumed or acknowledged father, and the mother agree to adjudicate the biological father's parentage in accordance with Sections 7700-608 and 7700-636 of this title. If the presumed or acknowledged father or mother is unavailable, the court may proceed if it is determined that diligent efforts have been made to locate the unavailable party and it would not be prejudicial to the best interest of the child to proceed without that party. In a proceeding under this section, the court shall enter an order either confirming the existing father-child relationship or adjudicating the biological father as the parent of the child. A final order under this subsection shall not leave the child without an acknowledged or adjudicated father.
- D. A proceeding seeking to disprove the father-child relationship between a child and the child's presumed or

```
acknowledged father may be maintained at any time in accordance with
 1
 2
    Section 7700-608 of this title if the court determines that the
 3
    mother committed fraud and genetic testing shows the child is not
 4
    biologically related to the presumed or acknowledged father.
        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
 5
 6
 7
        57-1-5099 EK
                              11/20/18
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

Req. No. 5099 Page 3

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019) 3 HOUSE BILL 1272 By: Lawson 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to children; amending 10A O.S. 2011, Sections 1-4-201, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2014, 1-4-203, as amended by Section 2, 8 Chapter 173, O.S.L. 2015, 1-4-206 and 1-4-601 (10A 9 O.S. Supp. 2018, Sections 1-4-201 and 1-4-203), which relate to the Oklahoma Children's Code; requiring 10 probable cause for taking custody without a court order; prescribing probable cause for taking custody 11 with a court order; mandating court to use probable cause standard at emergency custody hearing; 12 directing court to advise person of right to certain hearing for release of child; permitting restraining 1.3 order against alleged abuse perpetrator based on probable cause; requiring probable cause to prevent 14 certain release from emergency custody; creating hearing procedure for release of child in emergency 15 custody; specifying timing for hearing; providing extension for good cause; limiting timing for 16 extension; permitting information regardless of admissibility under the Oklahoma Evidence Code; 17 directing court to release child unless an imminent safety threat exists; providing for codification; and 18 providing an effective date. 19 20 21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 22 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-4-201, as 23 amended by Section 3, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2014 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018,

Req. No. 5065 Page 1

Section 1-4-201), is amended to read as follows:

24

Section 1-4-201. A. Pursuant to the provisions of this section, a child may be taken into custody prior to the filing of a petition:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- 1. By a peace officer or employee of the court, without a court order if the officer or employee has reasonable suspicion probable cause to believe that:
 - a. the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat,
 - b. the circumstances or surroundings of the child are such that continuation in the child's home or in the care or custody of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian would present an imminent safety threat to the child, or
 - c. the child, including a child with a disability, is unable to communicate effectively about abuse, neglect or other safety threat or is in a vulnerable position due to the inability to communicate effectively and the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat; or
- 2. By an order of the district court issued upon the application of the office of the district attorney. The application presented by the district attorney may be supported by a sworn affidavit which may be based upon information and belief. The application shall state facts sufficient to demonstrate to the court

that a continuation of the child in the home or with the caretaker of the child is contrary to the child's welfare and there is reasonable suspicion probable cause to believe that:

- a. the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat,
- b. the circumstances or surroundings of the child are such that continuation in the child's home or in the care or custody of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian would present an imminent safety threat to the child, or
- c. the child, including a child with a disability, is unable to communicate effectively about abuse, neglect or other safety threat or is in a vulnerable position due to the inability to communicate effectively and the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat.

The application and order may be verbal and upon being advised by the district attorney or the court of the verbal order, law enforcement shall act on such order. If verbal, the district attorney shall submit a written application and proposed order to the district court within one (1) judicial day from the issuance of the verbal order. Upon approval, the application and order shall be filed with the court clerk; or

Req. No. 5065 Page 3

1.3

3. By order of the district court when the child is in need of medical or behavioral health treatment in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the child and the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child is unwilling or unavailable to consent to such medical or behavioral health treatment or other action, the court shall specifically include in the emergency order authorization for such medical or behavioral health evaluation or treatment as it deems necessary.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- B. 1. By January 1, 2010, the Department in consultation with law enforcement and the district courts shall develop and implement a system for joint response when a child is taken into protective custody by a peace officer pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section. The system shall include:
 - a. designation of persons to serve as contact points for peace officers, including at least one backup contact for each initial contact point,
 - b. a protocol for conducting a safety evaluation at the scene where protective custody is assumed to determine whether the child faces an imminent safety threat and, if so, whether the child can be protected through placement with relatives or others without the Department assuming emergency custody,
 - c. the development of reception centers for accepting protective custody of children from peace officers

when the Department is unable to respond at the scene within a reasonable time period,

1.3

- d. a protocol for conducting a safety evaluation at the reception center within twenty-three (23) hours of the assumption of protective custody of a child to determine whether the child faces an imminent safety threat and, if so, whether the child can be protected through placement with relatives or others without the Department assuming emergency custody, and
- e. a protocol, when the child cannot safely be left in the home, for transporting a child to the home of a relative, kinship care home, an emergency foster care home, a shelter, or any other site at which the Department believes the child can be protected, provided that the Department shall utilize a shelter only when the home of a relative, kinship care home, or emergency foster care home is unavailable or inappropriate.
- 2. Beginning January 1, 2010, no child taken into protective custody under paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section shall be considered to be in the emergency custody of the Department until the Department has completed a safety evaluation and has concluded that the child faces an imminent safety threat and the court has issued an order for emergency custody.

3. If the safety evaluation performed by the Department of a child taken into protective custody under paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section indicates that the child does not face an imminent safety threat, the Department shall restore the child to the custody and control of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child.

1.3

- C. When an order issued by the district court pursuant to subsection A of this section places the child in the emergency custody of the Department of Human Services pending further hearing specified by Section 1-4-203 of this title, an employee of the Department may execute such order and physically take the child into custody in the following limited circumstance:
- 1. The child is located in a hospital, school, or day care facility; and
- 2. It is believed that assumption of the custody of the child from the facility can occur without risk to the child or the employee of the Department.
- Otherwise, the order shall be executed and the child taken into custody by a peace officer or employee of the court.
- D. The court shall not enter a prepetition emergency custody order removing a child from the home of the child unless the court makes a determination:
- 1. That an imminent safety threat exists and continuation in the home of the child is contrary to the welfare of the child; and

2. Whether reasonable efforts have been made to prevent the removal of the child from the child's home; or

- 3. An absence of efforts to prevent the removal of the child from the home of the child is reasonable because the removal is due to an emergency and is for the purpose of providing for the safety and welfare of the child.
- E. Whenever a child is taken into custody pursuant to this section:
- 1. The child may be taken to a kinship care home or an emergency foster care home designated by the Department, or if no such home is available, to a children's shelter located within the county where protective or emergency custody is assumed or, if there is no children's shelter within the county, to a children's shelter designated by the court;
- 2. Unless otherwise provided by administrative order entered pursuant to subsection F of this section, the child may be taken before a judge of the district court or the court may be contacted verbally for the purpose of obtaining an order for emergency custody. The court may place the child in the emergency custody of the Department or some other suitable person or entity pending further hearing specified by Section 1-4-203 of this title;
- 3. The child may be taken directly to or retained in a health care facility for medical treatment, when the child is in need of

emergency medical treatment to maintain the child's health, or as otherwise directed by the court; or

1.3

- 4. The child may be taken directly to or retained in a behavioral health treatment facility for evaluation or inpatient treatment, in accordance with the provisions of the Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act, when the child is in need of behavioral health care to preserve the child's health, or as otherwise directed by the court; and
- 5. Unless otherwise provided by administrative order entered pursuant to subsection F of this section, the district court of the county where the custody is assumed shall be immediately notified, verbally or in writing, that the child has been taken into custody. If notification is verbal, written notification shall be sent to the district court within one (1) judicial day of such verbal notification.
- F. The court may provide, in an administrative order issued pursuant to this section, for the disposition of children taken into custody and notification of the assumption of such custody.
- 1. Such order or rule shall be consistent with the provisions of subsection E of this section and may include a process for release of a child prior to an emergency custody hearing. The administrative order shall not include a provision to modify protective custody of a child to emergency custody of the Department upon admission of a child to a shelter; and

2. The administrative order may require joint training of peace officers and Department staff deemed necessary by the court to carry out the provisions of the administrative order.

- G. No child taken into custody pursuant to this section shall be confined in any jail, adult lockup, or adult or juvenile detention facility.
- H. When a determination is made by the Department that there is a significant risk of abuse or neglect, but there is not an imminent safety threat to the child, the Department may recommend a court-supervised and Department-monitored in-home placement. The Department shall assist the family in obtaining the services necessary to maintain the in-home care and correct the conditions leading to the risk determination.
- I. Any peace officer, employee of the court, or employee of the Department is authorized to transport a child when acting pursuant to this section. Such persons and any other person acting under the direction of the court, who in good faith transports any child or carries out duties pursuant to this section, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability that may result by reason of such act. For purposes of any proceedings, civil or criminal, the good faith of any such person shall be presumed. This provision shall not apply to damage or injury caused by the willful, wanton or gross negligence or misconduct of a person.

J. A parent or person responsible for the child who is arrested on a charge or warrant other than child abuse or neglect or an act of child endangerment may designate another person to take physical custody of the child. Upon this request, the peace officer may release the child to the physical custody of the designated person.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-4-203, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 173, O.S.L. 2015 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-4-203), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-4-203. A. Within the next two (2) judicial days following the child being taken into protective or emergency custody, the court shall conduct an emergency custody hearing. At the hearing, information may be provided to the court in the form of oral or written reports, affidavits or testimony. Any information having probative value may be received by the court regardless of its admissibility under the Oklahoma Evidence Code. At the hearing the court shall:

1. Determine whether facts exist that are sufficient to demonstrate to the court there is reasonable suspicion probable cause to believe that the child is in need of immediate protection due to abuse or neglect, or that the circumstances or surroundings of the child are such that continuation of the child in the child's home or in the care or custody of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian would present an imminent danger to the child;

2. Advise the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child in writing of the following:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- a. any right of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian to testify and present evidence at court hearings,
- the right to be represented by an attorney at court hearings,
- c. the consequences of failure to attend any hearings which may be held, and
- d. the right to appeal and procedure for appealing an order of the court, and
- e. the right to a hearing at any time prior to

 disposition seeking release of the child from emergency custody;
- 3. Determine custody of the child and order one of the following:
 - a. release of the child to the custody of the child's parent, legal guardian, or custodian from whom the child was removed under any conditions the court finds reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the child, or
 - b. placement of the child in the custody of a responsible adult or licensed child-placing agency under any conditions the court finds reasonably necessary to

protect the health, safety, or welfare of the child,

or

2.1

- c. whether to continue the child in or to place the child into the emergency custody of the Department of Human Services;
- 4. Order the parent, legal guardian, or custodian to complete an affidavit listing the names, addresses, and phone numbers of any parent, whether known or alleged, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, half-sibling, and first cousin and any comments concerning the appropriateness of the potential placement of the child with the relative. If no such relative exists, the court shall require the parent, legal guardian, or custodian to list any other relatives or persons with whom the child has had a substantial relationship or who may be a suitable placement for the child;
- 5. Direct the parent, legal guardian, or custodian to furnish the Department with a copy of the child's birth certificate within fifteen (15) days from the hearing if a petition is filed, unless otherwise extended by the court; and
- 6. In accordance with the safety or well-being of any child, determine whether reasonable efforts have been made to:
 - a. place siblings, who have been removed, together in the same foster care, guardianship, or adoptive placement, and

b. provide for frequent visitation or other ongoing interaction in the case of siblings who have been removed and who are not placed together.

- B. The office of the State Court Administrator shall create an affidavit form and make it available to each court responsible for conducting emergency custody hearings. The affidavit form shall contain a notice to the parent, legal guardian, or custodian that failure to identify a parent or relative in a timely manner may result in the child being permanently placed outside of the home of the child's parent or relative. The affidavit form shall also advise the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the penalties associated with perjury and contempt of court. The original completed affidavit shall be filed with the court clerk no later than five (5) days after the hearing or as otherwise directed by the court and a copy shall be provided to the Department.
- C. 1. The Department shall, within thirty (30) days of the removal of a child, exercise due diligence to identify relatives. Notice shall be provided by the Department to the following adult relatives: all grandparents, all parents of a sibling of the child, where the parent has legal custody of the sibling, and other adult relatives of the child, including relatives suggested by the parents, as the court directs. The notice shall advise the relatives:

a. the child has been or is being removed from the custody of the parent or parents of the child,

1.3

- b. of the options under applicable law to participate in the care and placement of the child, including any options that may be lost by failing to respond to the notice, and
- c. of the requirements to become a foster family home and the additional services and supports available for children placed in the home.
- 2. Relatives shall not be notified if notification would not be in the best interests of a child due to past or current family or domestic violence. The Department may promulgate rules in furtherance of the provisions of this subsection.
- SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-4-206, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-4-206. A. 1. At the emergency custody hearing or when a petition has been filed alleging that a child has been physically or sexually abused, the court may enter an order restraining the alleged perpetrator of the abuse from having contact with the child or attempting to contact the child and requiring the alleged perpetrator to move from the household in which the child resides. The court may issue a restraining order only if the court finds that:

a. there is a reasonable suspicion probable cause to

believe that abuse occurred and that the person to be

restrained committed the abuse, and

- b. the order is in the best interest of the child.
- 2. The court may also enter other appropriate orders including, but not limited to, orders that control contact between the alleged abuser, other children in the home, and any other person.
- 3. The court shall include in an order entered under this subsection the following information about the person to be restrained to the extent known by the court at the time the order is entered:
 - a. name,

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- b. address,
- c. age and birth date,
- d. race,
- e. sex,
- f. height and weight,
- g. color of hair and eyes, and
- h. any other identifying features such as tattoos.
- 4. The court may include in the order a provision that a peace officer accompany the restrained person to the household when it is necessary for the restrained person to remove personal property.
 - B. If the court enters an order under this section:

1. The clerk of the court shall provide without charge the number of certified true copies of the order and petition, if available, necessary to effect service and shall deliver the same to the sheriff or other person qualified to serve the order for service upon the person to be restrained; and

- 2. The sheriff or other person qualified to serve the order shall serve the person to be restrained personally unless that person is present at the hearing. After accepting the order, if the sheriff or other person cannot complete service within ten (10) days, the sheriff or other person shall file a return to the clerk of the court showing that service was not completed and the reason for the noncompletion.
- C. Within thirty (30) days after an order is served under this section, the restrained person may file a written request with the court and receive a court hearing on any portion of the order. If the restrained person requests a hearing under this subsection:
- 1. The court shall notify the parties and the restrained person of the date and time of the hearing; and
- 2. The court shall hold a hearing within twenty-one (21) days after the request for hearing is filed with the court and at the conclusion of the hearing may cancel or modify the order.
- D. 1. Within twenty-four (24) hours of the return of service of the restraining order, the clerk of the issuing court shall send certified copies thereof to all appropriate law enforcement agencies

designated by the court. A certified copy of any extension,
modification, vacation, cancellation, or consent agreement
concerning the restraining order shall be sent by the clerk of the
issuing court to those law enforcement agencies receiving the
original orders pursuant to this section and to any law enforcement
agencies designated by the court.

1.3

- 2. Any law enforcement agency receiving copies of the documents listed in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be required to ensure that other law enforcement agencies have access twenty-four (24) hours a day to the information contained in the documents which may include entry of information about the restraining order in the National Crime Information Center database.
- E. A restraining order issued pursuant to this section remains in effect for a period of one (1) year or until the order is sooner modified, amended, or terminated by court order.
- F. A court that issued a restraining order under this section may renew the order for a period of up to one (1) year if the court finds that there is probable cause to believe the renewal is in the best interest of the child. The court may renew the order on motion by the state or the child's attorney alleging facts supporting the required finding. If the renewal order is granted, subsections B and C of this section apply.
- G. If a restraining order issued pursuant to this section is terminated before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall

promptly deliver a true copy of the termination order to the
sheriff. The sheriff shall promptly remove the original order from
the National Crime Information Center database.

- H. Any person who has been served with the restraining order and is in violation of the restraining order, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by a term of imprisonment in the county jail of not more than one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment.
- SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-4-601, is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 1-4-601. A. The court shall hold an adjudication hearing following the filing of a petition alleging that a child is deprived. The hearing shall be held not more than ninety (90) calendar days following the filing of the petition. The child and the child's parents, guardian, or other legal custodian shall be entitled to not less than twenty (20) days' prior notice of the hearing.
 - B. 1. The child shall be released from emergency custody in the event the adjudication hearing is delayed beyond ninety (90) days from the date the petition is filed unless the court issues a written order with findings of fact supporting a determination that:
 - a. there exists reasonable suspicion probable cause to believe that the health, safety, or welfare of the

child would be in imminent danger if the child were returned to the home, and

- b. there exists either an exceptional circumstance to support the continuance of the child in emergency custody or the parties and the guardian ad litem, if any, agree to such continuance.
- 2. If the adjudicatory hearing is delayed pursuant to this subsection, the emergency custody order shall expire unless the hearing on the merits of the petition is held within one hundred eighty (180) days after the actual removal of the child.
- C. The release of a child from emergency custody due to the failure of an adjudication hearing being held within the time frame prescribed by this section shall not deprive the court of jurisdiction over the child and the parties or authority to enter temporary orders the court deems necessary to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the child pending the hearing on the petition.
- D. At the adjudication hearing, if the court finds that it is in the best interest of the child, the court shall:
- 1. Accept a stipulation by the child's parent, guardian, or other legal custodian that the facts alleged in the petition are true and correct;
- 2. Accept a stipulation by the child's parent, guardian, or other legal custodian that if the state presented its evidence

supporting the truth of the factual allegations in the petition to a court of competent jurisdiction, such evidence would be sufficient to meet the state's burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the factual allegations are true and correct; or

1.3

- 3. Conduct a nonjury trial to determine whether the state has met its burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the factual allegations in the petition are true and correct.
- E. 1. A decision determining a child to be deprived in a nonjury trial shall be based on sworn testimony.
- 2. The child, as a party to the proceeding, shall be given the opportunity to cross-examine witnesses and to present a case in chief if desired.
- SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-4-203.1 of Title 10A, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As provided in subparagraph e of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 1-4-203 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, upon the application of the parent or other person legally responsible for the care of a child temporarily removed as provided in Section 1-4-203 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes or upon the application of the attorney for the child for an order releasing the child, the court shall hold a hearing to determine whether the child should be released from emergency custody. The hearing shall be held within three (3) judicial days of the application unless extended by the

```
1
    court for good cause shown. An extension for the hearing shall be
 2
    for no more than seven (7) judicial days. Any information with
 3
    probative value may be received by the court regardless of its
 4
    admissibility under the Oklahoma Evidence Code. The court shall
 5
    grant the application at the hearing, unless it finds that releasing
 6
    the child would present an imminent safety threat to the child.
 7
        SECTION 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
 8
 9
        57-1-5065
                       ΕK
                               01/02/19
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 1274 By: Lawson
4	
5	
6	<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>
7	An Act relating to child welfare; amending 10A O.S. 2011, Sections 1-1-105, as last amended by Section 1,
8	Chapter 256, O.S.L. 2018 and 1-4-201, as amended by Section 1, Section 3, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2014 (10A O.S. Supp.
9	2018, Sections 1-1-105 and 1-4-201), which relate to the Oklahoma Children's Code; adding definition for
10	situational neglect; prohibiting removal of child for situational neglect; providing exception; authorizing
11	Department of Human Services to recommend in-home placement; directing Department to assist family in
12	obtaining necessary support services; and providing an effective date.
13	an effective date.
14	
15	
16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
17	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-1-105, as
18	last amended by Section 1, Chapter 256, O.S.L. 2018 (10A O.S. Supp.
19	2018, Section 1-1-105), is amended to read as follows:
20	Section 1-1-105. When used in the Oklahoma Children's Code,
21	unless the context otherwise requires:
22	1. "Abandonment" means:
23	a. the willful intent by words, actions, or omissions not
24	to return for a child, or

- b. the failure to maintain a significant parental relationship with a child through visitation or communication in which incidental or token visits or communication are not considered significant, or
- c. the failure to respond to notice of deprived proceedings;

2.1

- 2. "Abuse" means harm or threatened harm to the health, safety, or welfare of a child by a person responsible for the child's health, safety, or welfare, including but not limited to nonaccidental physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation. Provided, however, that nothing contained in the Oklahoma Children's Code shall prohibit any parent from using ordinary force as a means of discipline including, but not limited to, spanking, switching, or paddling.
 - a. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a child" means any real or threatened physical, mental, or emotional injury or damage to the body or mind that is not accidental including but not limited to sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, or dependency.
 - b. "Sexual abuse" includes but is not limited to rape, incest, and lewd or indecent acts or proposals made to a child, as defined by law, by a person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of the child.

- c. "Sexual exploitation" includes but is not limited to allowing, permitting, encouraging, or forcing a child to engage in prostitution, as defined by law, by any person eighteen (18) years of age or older or by a person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child, or allowing, permitting, encouraging, or engaging in the lewd, obscene, or pornographic, as defined by law, photographing, filming, or depicting of a child in those acts by a person responsible for the health, safety, and welfare of the child;
- 3. "Adjudication" means a finding by the court that the allegations in a petition alleging that a child is deprived are supported by a preponderance of the evidence;

- 4. "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing by the court as provided by Section 1-4-601 of this title;
 - 5. "Age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate" means:
 - a. activities or items that are generally accepted as suitable for children of the same age or level of maturity or that are determined to be developmentally appropriate for a child, based on the development of cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities that are typical for an age or age group, and

b. in the case of a specific child, activities or items that are suitable for that child based on the developmental stages attained by the child with respect to the cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities of the specific child.

1.3

In the event that any age-related activities have implications relative to the academic curriculum of a child, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize an officer or employee of the federal government to mandate, direct, or control a state or local educational agency, or the specific instructional content, academic achievement standards and assessments, curriculum, or program of instruction of a school;

- 6. "Assessment" means a comprehensive review of child safety and evaluation of family functioning and protective capacities that is conducted in response to a child abuse or neglect referral that does not allege a serious and immediate safety threat to a child;
- 7. "Behavioral health" means mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse diagnoses, and the continuum of mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse treatment;
- 8. "Child" means any unmarried person under eighteen (18) years of age;
- 9. "Child advocacy center" means a center and the multidisciplinary child abuse team of which it is a member that is

accredited by the National Children's Alliance or that is completing a sixth year of reaccreditation. Child advocacy centers shall be classified, based on the child population of a district attorney's district, as follows:

- a. nonurban centers in districts with child populations that are less than sixty thousand (60,000), and
- b. midlevel nonurban centers in districts with child populations equal to or greater than sixty thousand (60,000), but not including Oklahoma and Tulsa counties;
- 10. "Child with a disability" means any child who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the child, or who is regarded as having such an impairment by a competent medical professional;
- 11. "Child-placing agency" means an agency that arranges for or places a child in a foster family home, group home, adoptive home, or a successful adulthood program;
- 12. "Children's emergency resource center" means a community-based program that may provide emergency care and a safe and structured homelike environment or a host home for children providing food, clothing, shelter and hygiene products to each child served; after-school tutoring; counseling services; life-skills training; transition services; assessments; family reunification; respite care; transportation to or from school, doctors'

appointments, visitations and other social, school, court or other activities when necessary; and a stable environment for children in crisis who are in custody of the Department of Human Services if permitted under the Department's policies and regulations, or who have been voluntarily placed by a parent or custodian during a temporary crisis;

- 13. "Community-based services" or "community-based programs"
 means services or programs which maintain community participation or
 supervision in their planning, operation, and evaluation.

 Community-based services and programs may include, but are not
 limited to, emergency shelter, crisis intervention, group work, case
 supervision, job placement, recruitment and training of volunteers,
 consultation, medical, educational, home-based services, vocational,
 social, preventive and psychological guidance, training, counseling,
 early intervention and diversionary substance abuse treatment,
 sexual abuse treatment, transitional living, independent living, and
 other related services and programs;
- 14. "Concurrent permanency planning" means, when indicated, the implementation of two plans for a child entering foster care. One plan focuses on reuniting the parent and child; the other seeks to find a permanent out-of-home placement for the child with both plans being pursued simultaneously;
- 15. "Court-appointed special advocate" or "CASA" means a responsible adult volunteer who has been trained and is supervised

by a court-appointed special advocate program recognized by the court, and when appointed by the court, serves as an officer of the court in the capacity as a quardian ad litem;

- 16. "Court-appointed special advocate program" means an organized program, administered by either an independent, not-for-profit corporation, a dependent project of an independent, not-for-profit corporation or a unit of local government, which recruits, screens, trains, assigns, supervises and supports volunteers to be available for appointment by the court as guardians ad litem;
- 17. "Custodian" means an individual other than a parent, legal guardian or Indian custodian, to whom legal custody of the child has been awarded by the court. As used in this title, the term "custodian" shall not mean the Department of Human Services;
- 18. "Day treatment" means a nonresidential program which provides intensive services to a child who resides in the child's own home, the home of a relative, group home, a foster home or residential child care facility. Day treatment programs include, but are not limited to, educational services;
 - 19. "Department" means the Department of Human Services;
- 20. "Dependency" means a child who is homeless or without proper care or guardianship through no fault of his or her parent, legal guardian, or custodian;
 - 21. "Deprived child" means a child:

a. who is for any reason destitute, homeless, or abandoned,

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- b. who does not have the proper parental care or quardianship,
- c. who has been abused, neglected, or is dependent,
- d. whose home is an unfit place for the child by reason of depravity on the part of the parent or legal guardian of the child, or other person responsible for the health or welfare of the child,
- e. who is a child in need of special care and treatment because of the child's physical or mental condition, and the child's parents, legal guardian, or other custodian is unable or willfully fails to provide such special care and treatment. As used in this paragraph, a child in need of special care and treatment includes, but is not limited to, a child who at birth tests positive for alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance and who, pursuant to a drug or alcohol screen of the child and an assessment of the parent, is determined to be at risk of harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a child,
- f. who is a child with a disability deprived of the nutrition necessary to sustain life or of the medical treatment necessary to remedy or relieve a life-

23

24

1

threatening medical condition in order to cause or allow the death of the child if such nutrition or medical treatment is generally provided to similarly situated children without a disability or children with disabilities; provided that no medical treatment shall be necessary if, in the reasonable medical judgment of the attending physician, such treatment would be futile in saving the life of the child,

- g. who, due to improper parental care and guardianship, is absent from school as specified in Section 10-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, if the child is subject to compulsory school attendance,
- h. whose parent, legal guardian or custodian for good cause desires to be relieved of custody,
- i. who has been born to a parent whose parental rights to another child have been involuntarily terminated by the court and the conditions which led to the making of the finding, which resulted in the termination of the parental rights of the parent to the other child, have not been corrected, or
- j. whose parent, legal guardian, or custodian has subjected another child to abuse or neglect or has allowed another child to be subjected to abuse or

neglect and is currently a respondent in a deprived proceeding.

Nothing in the Oklahoma Children's Code shall be construed to mean a child is deprived for the sole reason the parent, legal guardian, or person having custody or control of a child, in good faith, selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or remedial care of such child.

Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prevent a court from immediately assuming custody of a child and ordering whatever action may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the child's health or welfare;

- 22. "Dispositional hearing" means a hearing by the court as provided by Section 1-4-706 of this title;
- 23. "Drug-endangered child" means a child who is at risk of suffering physical, psychological or sexual harm as a result of the use, possession, distribution, manufacture or cultivation of controlled substances, or the attempt of any of these acts, by a person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of the child, as defined in this section. This term includes circumstances wherein the substance abuse of the person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of the child interferes with that person's

ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment for the child;

- 24. "Emergency custody" means the custody of a child prior to adjudication of the child following issuance of an order of the district court pursuant to Section 1-4-201 of this title or following issuance of an order of the district court pursuant to an emergency custody hearing, as specified by Section 1-4-203 of this title;
- 25. "Facility" means a place, an institution, a building or part thereof, a set of buildings, or an area whether or not enclosing a building or set of buildings used for the lawful custody and treatment of children;
- 26. "Failure to protect" means failure to take reasonable action to remedy or prevent child abuse or neglect, and includes the conduct of a non-abusing parent or guardian who knows the identity of the abuser or the person neglecting the child, but lies, conceals or fails to report the child abuse or neglect or otherwise take reasonable action to end the abuse or neglect;
- 27. "Foster care" or "foster care services" means continuous twenty-four-hour care and supportive services provided for a child in foster placement including, but not limited to, the care, supervision, guidance, and rearing of a foster child by the foster parent;

- 28. "Foster family home" means the private residence of a foster parent who provides foster care services to a child. Such term shall include a nonkinship foster family home, a therapeutic foster family home, or the home of a relative or other kinship care home;
- 29. "Foster parent eligibility assessment" includes a criminal background investigation including, but not limited to, a national criminal history records search based upon the submission of fingerprints, home assessments, and any other assessment required by the Department of Human Services, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, or any child-placing agency pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act;
- 30. "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed by the court pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title having those duties and responsibilities as set forth in that section. The term "guardian ad litem" shall refer to a court-appointed special advocate as well as to any other person appointed pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title to serve as a guardian ad litem;
- 31. "Guardian ad litem of the estate of the child" means a person appointed by the court to protect the property interests of a child pursuant to Section 1-8-108 of this title;

32. "Group home" means a residential facility licensed by the Department to provide full-time care and community-based services for more than five but fewer than thirteen children;

- 33. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a child" means any real or threatened physical, mental, or emotional injury or damage to the body or mind that is not accidental including, but not limited to, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, or dependency;
- 34. "Heinous and shocking abuse" includes, but is not limited to, aggravated physical abuse that results in serious bodily, mental, or emotional injury. "Serious bodily injury" means injury that involves:
 - a. a substantial risk of death,
 - b. extreme physical pain,

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- c. protracted disfigurement,
- d. a loss or impairment of the function of a body member, organ, or mental faculty,
- e. an injury to an internal or external organ or the body,
- f. a bone fracture,
- g. sexual abuse or sexual exploitation,
- h. chronic abuse including, but not limited to, physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation which is repeated or continuing,

i. torture that includes, but is not limited to, inflicting, participating in or assisting in inflicting intense physical or emotional pain upon a child repeatedly over a period of time for the purpose of coercing or terrorizing a child or for the purpose of satisfying the craven, cruel, or prurient desires of the perpetrator or another person, or

j. any other similar aggravated circumstance;

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- 35. "Heinous and shocking neglect" includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. chronic neglect that includes, but is not limited to, a persistent pattern of family functioning in which the caregiver has not met or sustained the basic needs of a child which results in harm to the child,
 - b. neglect that has resulted in a diagnosis of the child as a failure to thrive,
 - c. an act or failure to act by a parent that results in the death or near death of a child or sibling, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or presents an imminent risk of serious harm to a child, or
 - d. any other similar aggravating circumstance;
- 36. "Individualized service plan" means a document written pursuant to Section 1-4-704 of this title that has the same meaning

as "service plan" or "treatment plan" where those terms are used in the Oklahoma Children's Code;

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- 37. "Infant" means a child who is twelve (12) months of age or younger;
- 38. "Institution" means a residential facility offering care and treatment for more than twenty residents;
 - 39. a. "Investigation" means a response to an allegation of abuse or neglect that involves a serious and immediate threat to the safety of the child, making it necessary to determine:
 - (1) the current safety of a child and the risk of subsequent abuse or neglect, and
 - (2) whether child abuse or neglect occurred and whether the family needs prevention- and intervention-related services.
 - b. "Investigation" results in a written response stating one of the following findings:
 - (1) "substantiated" means the Department has determined, after an investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect and based upon some credible evidence, that child abuse or neglect has occurred. When child abuse or neglect is substantiated, the Department may recommend:

24

- (a) court intervention if the Department finds the health, safety, or welfare of the child is threatened, or
- (b) child abuse and neglect prevention- and intervention-related services for the child, parents or persons responsible for the care of the child if court intervention is not determined to be necessary,
- determined, after an investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect, that insufficient evidence exists to fully determine whether child abuse or neglect has occurred. If child abuse or neglect is unsubstantiated, the Department may recommend, when determined to be necessary, that the parents or persons responsible for the care of the child obtain child abuse and neglect prevention—and intervention—related services, or
- (3) "ruled out" means a report in which a child protective services specialist has determined, after an investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect, that no child abuse or neglect has occurred;

40. "Kinship care" means full-time care of a child by a kinship relation;

1.3

- 41. "Kinship guardianship" means a permanent guardianship as defined in this section;
- 42. "Kinship relation" or "kinship relationship" means relatives, stepparents, or other responsible adults who have a bond or tie with a child and/or to whom has been ascribed a family relationship role with the child's parents or the child; provided, however, in cases where the Indian Child Welfare Act applies, the definitions contained in 25 U.S.C., Section 1903 shall control;
- 43. "Mental health facility" means a mental health or substance abuse treatment facility as defined by the Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act;
- 44. "Minor" means the same as the term "child" as defined in this section;
- 45. "Minor in need of treatment" means a child in need of mental health or substance abuse treatment as defined by the Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act;
- 46. "Multidisciplinary child abuse team" means any team established pursuant to Section 1-9-102 of this title of three or more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of physical and sexual child abuse and who are qualified to facilitate a broad range of prevention— and intervention—related services and services related

1 to child abuse. For purposes of this definition, "freestanding" means a team not used by a child advocacy center for its accreditation: 3 "Near death" means a child is in serious or critical 4 5 condition, as certified by a physician, as a result of abuse or neglect; 6 7 "Neglect" means: 48. the failure or omission to provide any of the 8 9 following: 10 (1)adequate nurturance and affection, food, 11 clothing, shelter, sanitation, hygiene, or 12 appropriate education, 1.3 (2) medical, dental, or behavioral health care, 14 supervision or appropriate caretakers, or (3) 15 special care made necessary by the physical or (4)16 mental condition of the child, 17 the failure or omission to protect a child from b. 18 exposure to any of the following: 19

(1) the use, possession, sale, or manufacture of illegal drugs,

- (2) illegal activities, or
- (3) sexual acts or materials that are not ageappropriate, or

c. abandonment.

20

2.1

22

23

24

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to mean a child is abused or neglected for the sole reason the parent, legal guardian or person having custody or control of a child, in good faith, selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or remedial care of such child. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prevent a court from immediately assuming custody of a child, pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code, and ordering whatever action may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the child's health or welfare;

- 12 49. "Permanency hearing" means a hearing by the court pursuant 13 to Section 1-4-811 of this title;
 - 50. "Permanent custody" means the court-ordered custody of an adjudicated deprived child when a parent-child relationship no longer exists due to termination of parental rights or due to the death of a parent or parents;
 - 51. "Permanent guardianship" means a judicially created relationship between a child, a kinship relation of the child, or other adult established pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-709 of this title;
- 52. "Person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare" includes a parent; a legal guardian; custodian; a foster parent; a person eighteen (18) years of age or older with whom the

child's parent cohabitates or any other adult residing in the home of the child; an agent or employee of a public or private residential home, institution, facility or day treatment program as defined in Section 175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or an owner, operator, or employee of a child care facility as defined by Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

- 53. "Plan of safe care" means a plan developed for an infant with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum

 Disorder upon release from the care of a health care provider that addresses the health and substance use treatment needs of the infant and mother or caregiver;
- 54. "Protective custody" means custody of a child taken by a law enforcement officer or designated employee of the court without a court order;
- 55. "Putative father" means an alleged father as that term is defined in Section 7700-102 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
- 56. "Reasonable and prudent parent standard" means the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety, and best interests of a child while at the same time encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child. This standard shall be used by the child's caregiver when determining whether to allow a child to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. For purposes of this definition, the term "caregiver" means a foster

parent with whom a child in foster care has been placed, a
representative of a group home where a child has been placed or a
designated official for a residential child care facility where a
child in foster care has been placed;

1.3

- 57. "Relative" means a grandparent, great-grandparent, brother or sister of whole or half blood, aunt, uncle or any other person related to the child;
- 58. "Residential child care facility" means a twenty-four-hour residential facility where children live together with or are supervised by adults who are not their parents or relatives;
- 59. "Review hearing" means a hearing by the court pursuant to Section 1-4-807 of this title;
- 60. "Risk" means the likelihood that an incident of child abuse or neglect will occur in the future;
- 61. "Safety threat" means the threat of serious harm due to child abuse or neglect occurring in the present or in the very near future and without the intervention of another person, a child would likely or in all probability sustain severe or permanent disability or injury, illness, or death;
- 62. "Safety analysis" means action taken by the Department in response to a report of alleged child abuse or neglect that may include an assessment or investigation based upon an analysis of the information received according to priority guidelines and other criteria adopted by the Department;

63. "Safety evaluation" means evaluation of a child's situation by the Department using a structured, evidence-based tool to determine if the child is subject to a safety threat;

- 64. "Secure facility" means a facility which is designed and operated to ensure that all entrances and exits from the facility are subject to the exclusive control of the staff of the facility, whether or not the juvenile being detained has freedom of movement within the perimeter of the facility, or a facility which relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences, or physical restraint in order to control behavior of its residents;
- 65. "Sibling" means a biologically or legally related brother or sister of a child. This includes an individual who satisfies at least one of the following conditions with respect to a child:
 - a. the individual is considered by state law to be a sibling of the child, or
 - b. the individual would have been considered a sibling under state law but for a termination or other disruption of parental rights, such as the death of a parent;
- 66. "Situational neglect" means neglect that occurs because of a specific situation or crisis, including but not limited to bereavement or poverty, and as such tends to only last for a period of time, depending on the situation;

- 67. "Specialized foster care" means foster care provided to a child in a foster home or agency-contracted home which:
 - a. has been certified by the Developmental Disabilities

 Services Division of the Department of Human Services,
 - b. is monitored by the Division, and

- c. is funded through the Home- and Community-Based Waiver
 Services Program administered by the Division;
- 67. 68. "Successful adulthood program" means a program specifically designed to assist a child to enhance those skills and abilities necessary for successful adult living. A successful adulthood program may include, but shall not be limited to, such features as minimal direct staff supervision, and the provision of supportive services to assist children with activities necessary for finding an appropriate place of residence, completing an education or vocational training, obtaining employment, or obtaining other similar services;
- 68. 69. "Temporary custody" means court-ordered custody of an adjudicated deprived child;
- 69. 70. "Therapeutic foster family home" means a foster family home which provides specific treatment services, pursuant to a therapeutic foster care contract, which are designed to remedy social and behavioral problems of a foster child residing in the home;

70. 71. "Trafficking in persons" means sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking in persons as described in Section 7102 of Title 22 of the United States Code:

1.3

- a. "sex trafficking" means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, and
- b. "severe forms of trafficking in persons" means:
 - (1) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained eighteen (18) years of age, or
 - (2) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery;
- 71. 72. "Transitional living program" means a residential program that may be attached to an existing facility or operated solely for the purpose of assisting children to develop the skills and abilities necessary for successful adult living. The program may include, but shall not be limited to, reduced staff supervision, vocational training, educational services, employment and employment

training, and other appropriate independent living skills training as a part of the transitional living program; and

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

72. 73. "Voluntary foster care placement" means the temporary placement of a child by the parent, legal guardian or custodian of the child in foster care pursuant to a signed placement agreement between the Department or a child-placing agency and the child's parent, legal guardian or custodian.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-4-201, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2014 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-4-201), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-4-201. A. Pursuant to the provisions of this section, a child may be taken into custody prior to the filing of a petition:

- 1. By a peace officer or employee of the court, without a court order if the officer or employee has reasonable suspicion that:
 - a. the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat,
 - b. the circumstances or surroundings of the child are such that continuation in the child's home or in the care or custody of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian would present an imminent safety threat to the child, or
 - c. the child, including a child with a disability, is unable to communicate effectively about abuse, neglect

or other safety threat or is in a vulnerable position due to the inability to communicate effectively and the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat; or

2. By an order of the district court issued upon the application of the office of the district attorney. The application presented by the district attorney may be supported by a sworn affidavit which may be based upon information and belief. The application shall state facts sufficient to demonstrate to the court that a continuation of the child in the home or with the caretaker of the child is contrary to the child's welfare and there is reasonable suspicion that:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- a. the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat,
- b. the circumstances or surroundings of the child are such that continuation in the child's home or in the care or custody of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian would present an imminent safety threat to the child, or
- c. the child, including a child with a disability, is unable to communicate effectively about abuse, neglect or other safety threat or is in a vulnerable position due to the inability to communicate effectively and

the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat.

The application and order may be verbal and upon being advised by the district attorney or the court of the verbal order, law enforcement shall act on such order. If verbal, the district attorney shall submit a written application and proposed order to the district court within one (1) judicial day from the issuance of the verbal order. Upon approval, the application and order shall be filed with the court clerk; or

- 3. By order of the district court when the child is in need of medical or behavioral health treatment in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the child and the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child is unwilling or unavailable to consent to such medical or behavioral health treatment or other action, the court shall specifically include in the emergency order authorization for such medical or behavioral health evaluation or treatment as it deems necessary.
- B. 1. By January 1, 2010, the Department in consultation with law enforcement and the district courts shall develop and implement a system for joint response when a child is taken into protective custody by a peace officer pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section. The system shall include:

20

2.1

22

23

24

a. designation of persons to serve as contact points for peace officers, including at least one backup contact for each initial contact point,

- b. a protocol for conducting a safety evaluation at the scene where protective custody is assumed to determine whether the child faces an imminent safety threat and, if so, whether the child can be protected through placement with relatives or others without the Department assuming emergency custody,
- c. the development of reception centers for accepting protective custody of children from peace officers when the Department is unable to respond at the scene within a reasonable time period,
- d. a protocol for conducting a safety evaluation at the reception center within twenty-three (23) hours of the assumption of protective custody of a child to determine whether the child faces an imminent safety threat and, if so, whether the child can be protected through placement with relatives or others without the Department assuming emergency custody, and
- e. a protocol, when the child cannot safely be left in the home, for transporting a child to the home of a relative, kinship care home, an emergency foster care home, a shelter, or any other site at which the

Department believes the child can be protected, provided that the Department shall utilize a shelter only when the home of a relative, kinship care home, or emergency foster care home is unavailable or inappropriate.

- 2. Beginning January 1, 2010, no child taken into protective custody under paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section shall be considered to be in the emergency custody of the Department until the Department has completed a safety evaluation and has concluded that the child faces an imminent safety threat and the court has issued an order for emergency custody.
- 3. If the safety evaluation performed by the Department of a child taken into protective custody under paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section indicates that the child does not face an imminent safety threat, the Department shall restore the child to the custody and control of the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child.
- C. When an order issued by the district court pursuant to subsection A of this section places the child in the emergency custody of the Department of Human Services pending further hearing specified by Section 1-4-203 of this title, an employee of the Department may execute such order and physically take the child into custody in the following limited circumstance:

Reg. No. 5067

1. The child is located in a hospital, school, or day care 2 facility; and

1.3

- 2. It is believed that assumption of the custody of the child from the facility can occur without risk to the child or the employee of the Department.
- 6 Otherwise, the order shall be executed and the child taken into 7 custody by a peace officer or employee of the court.
 - D. The court shall not enter a prepetition emergency custody order removing a child from the home of the child unless the court makes a determination:
 - 1. That an imminent safety threat exists and continuation in the home of the child is contrary to the welfare of the child; and
 - 2. Whether reasonable efforts have been made to prevent the removal of the child from the child's home; or
 - 3. An absence of efforts to prevent the removal of the child from the home of the child is reasonable because the removal is due to an emergency and is for the purpose of providing for the safety and welfare of the child.
 - E. Whenever a child is taken into custody pursuant to this section:
 - 1. The child may be taken to a kinship care home or an emergency foster care home designated by the Department, or if no such home is available, to a children's shelter located within the county where protective or emergency custody is assumed or, if there

is no children's shelter within the county, to a children's shelter designated by the court;

- 2. Unless otherwise provided by administrative order entered pursuant to subsection F of this section, the child may be taken before a judge of the district court or the court may be contacted verbally for the purpose of obtaining an order for emergency custody. The court may place the child in the emergency custody of the Department or some other suitable person or entity pending further hearing specified by Section 1-4-203 of this title;
- 3. The child may be taken directly to or retained in a health care facility for medical treatment, when the child is in need of emergency medical treatment to maintain the child's health, or as otherwise directed by the court; or
- 4. The child may be taken directly to or retained in a behavioral health treatment facility for evaluation or inpatient treatment, in accordance with the provisions of the Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act, when the child is in need of behavioral health care to preserve the child's health, or as otherwise directed by the court; and
- 5. Unless otherwise provided by administrative order entered pursuant to subsection F of this section, the district court of the county where the custody is assumed shall be immediately notified, verbally or in writing, that the child has been taken into custody. If notification is verbal, written notification shall be sent to the

1 district court within one (1) judicial day of such verbal 2 notification.

- F. The court may provide, in an administrative order issued pursuant to this section, for the disposition of children taken into custody and notification of the assumption of such custody.
- 1. Such order or rule shall be consistent with the provisions of subsection E of this section and may include a process for release of a child prior to an emergency custody hearing. The administrative order shall not include a provision to modify protective custody of a child to emergency custody of the Department upon admission of a child to a shelter; and
- 2. The administrative order may require joint training of peace officers and Department staff deemed necessary by the court to carry out the provisions of the administrative order.
- G. No child taken into custody pursuant to this section shall be confined in any jail, adult lockup, or adult or juvenile detention facility.
- H. When a determination is made by the Department that there is a significant risk of abuse or neglect, but there is not an imminent safety threat to the child, the Department may recommend a court-supervised and Department-monitored in-home placement. The Department shall assist the family in obtaining the services necessary to maintain the in-home care and correct the conditions leading to the risk determination.

neglect unless the Department determines the child is in need of immediate protection due to an imminent safety threat. The

Department may recommend a court-supervised and Department-monitored in-home placement in cases of situational neglect. The Department shall assist the family in obtaining the services necessary to maintain the in-home care and correct the conditions leading to the situational neglect.

- J. Any peace officer, employee of the court, or employee of the Department is authorized to transport a child when acting pursuant to this section. Such persons and any other person acting under the direction of the court, who in good faith transports any child or carries out duties pursuant to this section, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability that may result by reason of such act. For purposes of any proceedings, civil or criminal, the good faith of any such person shall be presumed. This provision shall not apply to damage or injury caused by the willful, wanton or gross negligence or misconduct of a person.
- J. K. A parent or person responsible for the child who is arrested on a charge or warrant other than child abuse or neglect or an act of child endangerment may designate another person to take physical custody of the child. Upon this request, the peace officer may release the child to the physical custody of the designated person.

1	SECTION 3.	This act sh	all become	effective	November	1, 2019.	
2							
3	57-1-5067	EK 0	1/02/19				
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA							
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)							
3	HOUSE BILL 2329 By: McDugle							
4								
5								
6	AS INTRODUCED							
7	An Act relating to child welfare; amending 10A O.S. 2011, Sections 1-2-101, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 277, O.S.L. 2018 and 1-2-106 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-2-101), which relate to the Oklahoma							
8								
9	Children's Code; requiring person reporting child abuse or neglect to disclose name, telephone number and address; declaring information is confidential and disclosed only upon a court order; directing transfer of certain call to emergency number; modifying information included in notice of investigation; and providing an effective date.							
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:							
16	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-101, as							
17	last amended by Section 1, Chapter 277, O.S.L. 2018 (10A O.S. Supp.							
18	2018, Section 1-2-101), is amended to read as follows:							
19	Section 1-2-101. A. 1. The Department of Human Services shall							
20	establish a statewide centralized hotline for the reporting of child							
21	abuse or neglect to the Department.							
22	2. The Department shall provide hotline-specific training							
23	including, but not limited to, interviewing skills, customer service							
24								

skills, narrative writing, necessary computer systems, making case determinations, and identifying priority situations.

- 3. The Department is authorized to contract with third parties in order to train hotline workers.
- 4. The Department shall develop a system to track the number of calls received, and of that number:
 - a. the number of calls screened out,

1.3

- b. the number of referrals assigned,
- c. the number of calls received by persons unwilling to disclose basic personal information including, but not limited to, first and last name, and
- d. the number of calls in which the allegations were later found to be unsubstantiated or ruled out.
- 5. The Department shall electronically record each referral received by the hotline and establish a secure means of retaining the recordings for twelve (12) months. Each referral shall include the name, telephone number and address of the person making the referral. The Department shall inform the person making the referral that his or her name and identifying information shall be confidential and subject to disclosure only if a court orders the disclosure of the information. If the person making the referral is unwilling to provide this information, the call shall be transferred to emergency telephone number nine-one-one (911). The recordings shall be confidential and subject to disclosure only if a court

orders the disclosure of the referral. The Department shall redact any information identifying the reporting party unless otherwise ordered by the court.

1.3

2.1

- B. 1. Every person having reason to believe that a child under the age of eighteen (18) years is a victim of abuse or neglect shall report the matter immediately to the Department of Human Services. Reports shall be made to the hotline provided for in subsection A of this section. Any allegation of abuse or neglect reported in any manner to a county office shall immediately be referred to the hotline by the Department. Provided, however, that in actions for custody by abandonment, provided for in Section 2-117 of Title 30 of the Oklahoma Statutes, there shall be no reporting requirement.
 - 2. a. Every teacher of any child under the age of eighteen

 (18) years having reason to believe that a child under

 the age of eighteen (18) years is a victim of abuse or

 neglect shall report the matter immediately to the

 Department of Human Services. Reports shall be made

 to the hotline provided for in subsection A of this

 section. Any allegation of abuse or neglect reported

 in any manner to a county office shall immediately be

 referred to the hotline by the Department. Provided,

 however, that in actions for custody by abandonment,

 provided for in Section 2-117 of Title 30 of the

Oklahoma Statutes, there shall be no reporting requirement, and

- b. every teacher of a student age eighteen (18) years or older having reason to believe that a student age eighteen (18) years or older is a victim of abuse or neglect shall report the matter immediately to local law enforcement.
- 3. Every physician, surgeon, or other health care professional including doctors of medicine, licensed osteopathic physicians, residents and interns, or any other health care professional attending the birth of a child who tests positive for alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance shall promptly report the matter to the Department.
- 4. No privilege or contract shall relieve any person from the requirement of reporting pursuant to this section.
- 5. The reporting obligations under this section are individual, and no employer, supervisor, administrator, governing body or entity shall interfere with the reporting obligations of any employee or other person or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against the employee or other person who in good faith reports suspected child abuse or neglect, or who provides testimony in any proceeding involving child abuse or neglect. Any employer, supervisor, administrator, governing body or entity who discharges, discriminates or retaliates against the employee or other person

shall be liable for damages, costs and attorney fees. If a child who is the subject of the report or other child is harmed by the discharge, discrimination or retaliation described in this paragraph, the party harmed may file an action to recover damages, costs and attorney fees.

- 6. Every physician, surgeon, or other health care professional making a report of abuse or neglect as required by this subsection or examining a child to determine the likelihood of abuse or neglect and every hospital or related institution in which the child was examined or treated shall provide, upon request, copies of the results of the examination or copies of the examination on which the report was based and any other clinical notes, x-rays, photographs, and other previous or current records relevant to the case to law enforcement officers conducting a criminal investigation into the case and to employees of the Department of Human Services conducting an investigation of alleged abuse or neglect in the case.
- C. Any person who knowingly and willfully fails to promptly report suspected child abuse or neglect or who interferes with the prompt reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect may be reported to local law enforcement for criminal investigation and, upon conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person with prolonged knowledge of ongoing child abuse or neglect who knowingly and willfully fails to promptly report such knowledge may be reported to local law enforcement for criminal investigation and,

upon conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a felony. For the purposes of this paragraph, "prolonged knowledge" shall mean knowledge of at least six (6) months of child abuse or neglect.

- D. 1. Any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false report pursuant to the provisions of this section or a report that the person knows lacks factual foundation may be reported to local law enforcement for criminal investigation and, upon conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 2. If a court determines that an accusation of child abuse or neglect made during a child custody proceeding is false and the person making the accusation knew it to be false at the time the accusation was made, the court may impose a fine, not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) and reasonable attorney fees incurred in recovering the sanctions, against the person making the accusation. The remedy provided by this paragraph is in addition to paragraph 1 of this subsection or to any other remedy provided by law.
- E. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to exempt or prohibit any person from reporting any suspected child abuse or neglect pursuant to subsection B of this section.
- SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-106, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 1-2-106. At the initial time of contact with a person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who is the

subject of an investigation pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code, the Department of Human Services shall advise the person of the specific complaint or allegation made against the person. If the Department is unable to locate the person, as soon as possible after initiating the investigation of the person, the Department shall provide to the person a brief and easily understood written description of the investigation process. Notice shall include:

- 1. A statement that the investigation is being undertaken by the Department pursuant to the requirements of the Oklahoma

 Children's Code in response to a report of child abuse or neglect;
- 2. A statement that the identity of the person who reported the incident of abuse or neglect is confidential and may not even be known to the Department since the report could have been made anonymously shall only be disclosed upon a court order;
- 3. A statement that the investigation is required by law to be conducted in order to enable the Department to identify incidents of abuse or neglect in order to provide protective or preventive social services to families who are in need of such services;
- 4. A statement that, upon completion of the investigation, a letter will be sent from the Department which will inform the person:
 - a. that the Department has found insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect, or

Req. No. 5298 Page 7

b. that there appears to be probable cause to suspect the existence of child abuse or neglect in the judgment of the Department;

5. An explanation of the procedures of the Department for conducting an investigation of alleged child abuse or neglect, including:

1.3

- a. a description of the circumstances under which the Department would seek to remove the child from the home through the judicial system, and
- b. an explanation that the law requires the Department to refer all reports of child abuse or neglect to a law enforcement agency for a separate determination of whether a criminal violation occurred;
- 6. The procedures to follow if there is a complaint regarding the actions of the Department or to request a review of the findings made by the Department during or at the conclusion of the investigation;
- 7. The right of the person to review records filed with the court in the event an action is filed;
 - 8. The right of the person to seek legal counsel;
- 9. References to the statutory and regulatory provisions governing child abuse and neglect and how the person may obtain copies of those provisions;

```
10. The process the person may use to acquire visitation with
 1
 2
    the child if the child is removed from the home; and
 3
        11. A statement that a failure to appear for court proceedings
    may result in the termination of the person's parental rights to the
 4
 5
    child.
 6
        SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
 7
                               12/14/18
 8
        57-1-5298
                   ΕK
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019) 3 HOUSE BILL 2604 By: Echols 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to children; amending 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-108, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 29, O.S.L. 2015 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-2-108), 8 which relates to the Department of Human Services 9 statewide central registry; directing Department to create a perpetrator registry; specifying date for 10 registry creation; listing contents of registry; requiring notice be given to perpetrator; providing 11 for administrative hearing to review decision; requiring removal if perpetrator poses no risk of 12 harm or threatened harm to children; prescribing confidentiality of registry; authorizing disclosure 1.3 of registry information to employer or volunteer organization; limiting information for disclosure; 14 directing Department to promulgate rules for registry; and providing an effective date. 15 16 17 18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 19 SECTION 1. 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-108, as AMENDATORY 20 amended by Section 1, Chapter 29, O.S.L. 2015 (10A O.S. Supp. 2018, 21 Section 1-2-108), is amended to read as follows: 22 Section 1-2-108 A. There is hereby established within the 23 Department of Human Services an information system for the 24 maintenance of all reports of child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual

Req. No. 7305

- 1 exploitation, and neglect made pursuant to the provisions of the 2 Oklahoma Children's Code.
 - B. The Children and Family Services Division of the Department shall be responsible for maintaining a suitably cross-indexed system of all the reports.
- 6 C. The records maintained shall contain, but shall not be 7 limited to:
- 8 1. All information in the written report required by Section 1-9 2-101 of this title;
 - 2. A record of the final disposition of the report including services offered and services accepted;
 - 3. The plan for rehabilitative treatment; and
 - 4. Any other relevant information.
 - D. Data and information maintained and related to individual cases shall be confidential and shall be made available only except as authorized by state or federal law.
 - E. The Commission for Department of Human Services shall promulgate rules governing the availability of such data and information.
- F. Rules promulgated by the Commission Department shall encourage cooperation with other states in exchanging reports in order to effect a national registration system.

24

23

3

4

5

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

Req. No. 7305 Page 2

G. No person shall allow the data and information maintained to be released except as authorized by Chapter VI of the Oklahoma Children's Code law.

- H. Records obtained by the Department shall be maintained by the Department until otherwise provided by law.
- I. Beginning January 1, 2020, the Department shall create a perpetrator registry which shall contain records of all reports in which allegations of child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and neglect made on or after January 1, 2020, pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code are determined after investigation to be substantiated.
- 1. The perpetrator registry shall identify the perpetrator of each substantiated report of child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or neglect and shall include the name, date of birth, address and other identifying information of the perpetrator. The Department shall notify the perpetrator that his or her information is being added to the perpetrator registry and the perpetrator may request an administrative hearing within thirty (30) days to review the decision. If the hearing officer determines the perpetrator poses no risk of harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a child, the perpetrator's information shall be removed from the registry.
- 2. Information placed in the perpetrator registry shall be confidential and may only be disclosed to an employer or volunteer

Req. No. 7305 Page 3

```
1
    organization for purposes of screening an applicant, employee or
 2
    volunteer who is or who will be coming into contact with children in
 3
    the course of employment or volunteering. The information subject
 4
    to disclosure to an employer or volunteer organization is limited
 5
    to:
 6
                  confirmation that the applicant, employee or volunteer
             a.
 7
                  has a substantiated report,
 8
                  the date the investigation was completed, and
             b.
 9
                  the type of substantiated report.
             C.
10
        3. The Department shall promulgate rules necessary to create a
11
    perpetrator registry pursuant to this subsection.
12
        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
1.3
14
        57-1-7305
                              01/05/19
                  EK
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

Req. No. 7305

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA								
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)								
3	HOUSE BILL 2189 By: Brewer								
4									
5									
6	<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>								
7	An Act relating to civil procedure; authorizing hearing to determine alternative method of providing								
8	testimony; stating requirements for determination hearing; providing standards for determination;								
9	providing factors for determination; authorizing use								
10	of support persons or advocates; providing requirements for order allowing or disallowing testimony by alternative method; providing right of parties to examine or cross-examine domestic abuse witness; defining term; providing for codification;								
11									
12	and providing an effective date.								
13									
14									
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:								
16	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified								
17	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2616 of Title 12, unless there								
18	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:								
19	A. The judge or presiding officer in a criminal proceeding may								
20	order a hearing to determine whether to allow a domestic abuse								
21	witness to testify by an alternative method. The judge or presiding								
22	officer, for good cause shown, shall order the hearing upon motion								

Req. No. 6917 Page 1

of a party or a domestic abuse witness.

24

B. A hearing to determine whether to allow a domestic abuse witness to testify by an alternative method shall be conducted on the record after reasonable notice to all parties, any nonparty movant and any other person the presiding officer specifies. The presence of the domestic abuse witness is not required at the hearing unless ordered by the judge or presiding officer. In conducting the hearing, the judge or presiding officer shall not be bound by rules of evidence except the rules of privilege.

- C. The judge or presiding officer may allow a domestic abuse witness to testify by an alternative method only in the following situations:
- 1. The domestic abuse witness may testify otherwise than in an open forum in the presence and full view of the finder of fact if the judge or presiding officer finds by clear and convincing evidence that the person would suffer serious emotional trauma that would substantially impair the ability of the person to communicate with the finder of fact if required to testify in the open forum; and
- 2. The domestic abuse witness may testify other than face-to-face with the defendant if the judge or presiding officer finds by clear and convincing evidence that the person would suffer serious emotional trauma that would substantially impair the ability of the person to communicate with the finder of fact if required to be confronted face-to-face by the defendant.

Req. No. 6917 Page 2

- D. The domestic abuse witness shall have the right to be accompanied by a support person while giving testimony in the proceeding, but the support person shall not discuss the testimony of the domestic abuse witness with any other witnesses or attempt to prompt or influence the testimony of the domestic abuse witness.

 The domestic abuse witness may have an advocate appointed by the court to monitor the potential for emotional trauma. The advocate shall be a licensed professional social worker, counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist.
- E. If the judge or presiding officer determines that a standard under subsection C of this section has been met, the judge or presiding officer shall determine whether to allow the domestic abuse witness to testify by an alternative method and in doing so shall consider:
 - 1. Alternative methods reasonably available;
- 2. Available means for protecting the interests of or reducing emotional trauma to the person without resort to an alternative method;
 - 3. The nature of the case:

- 4. The relative rights of the parties;
 - 5. The importance of the proposed testimony of the person;
- 22 6. The nature and degree of emotional trauma that the person 23 may suffer if an alternative method is not used; and

7. Any other relevant factor.

Req. No. 6917 Page 3

F. An order allowing or disallowing a domestic abuse witness to testify by an alternative method shall state the findings of fact and conclusions of law that support the determination of the judge or presiding officer.

1.3

- G. An order allowing a domestic abuse witness to testify by an alternative method shall:
 - 1. State the method by which the person is to testify;
- 2. List any individual or category of individuals allowed to be in, or required to be excluded from, the presence of the person during the testimony;
- 3. State any special conditions necessary to facilitate a party's right to examine or cross-examine the person;
- 4. State any condition or limitation upon the participation of individuals present during the testimony of the person; and
- 5. State any other condition necessary for taking or presenting the testimony.
- H. The alternative method ordered by the judge or presiding officer shall not be more restrictive of the rights of the parties than is necessary under the circumstance to serve the purposes of the order.
- I. An alternative method ordered by the judge or presiding officer shall permit a full and fair opportunity for examination or cross-examination of the domestic abuse witness by each party.

J. As used in this section, "alternative method" means a method by which a domestic abuse witness testifies which does not include any of the following: 1. Having the person testify in person in an open forum; 2. Having the person testify in the presence and full view of the finder of act and presiding officer; and 3. Allowing all of the parties to be present, to participate and to view and be viewed by the person. SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019. 57-1-6917 GRS 12/19/18

Req. No. 6917 Page 5

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 2091 By: O'Donnell
4	
5	
6	<u>AS INTRODUCED</u>
7	An Act relating to criminal procedure; amending 22 O.S. 2011, Section 1602, which relates to the
9	Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board; increasing membership of the Board; specifying appointment requirements; and providing an effective date.
10	
11	
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
13	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2011, Section 1602, is
14	amended to read as follows:
15	Section 1602. A. The Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board
16	shall be composed of eighteen (18) <u>twenty (20)</u> members, or their
17	designees, as follows:
18	1. Eight of the members shall be:
19	a. the Chief Medical Examiner,
20	b. a designee of the Attorney General. The designee
21	shall be a person assigned to the Victims Services
22	Unit of the Office of the Attorney General,
23	c. the State Commissioner of Health,
) /	

Req. No. 7072 Page 1

1	d	l. t	he Chief of Injury Prevention Services of the State
2		D	epartment of Health,
3	е	. t	he Director of the Department of Human Services,
4	f	·. t	he Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of
5		I	nvestigation,
6	g	. t	he Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health
7		а	nd Substance Abuse Services, and
8	h	. t	he Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile
9		A	ffairs; and
10	2. Te	n Twe	<pre>lve of the members shall be appointed by the Attorney</pre>
11	General, s	hall	serve for terms of two (2) years and shall be
12	eligible f	or re	appointment. The members shall be persons having
13	training a	nd ex	perience in matters related to domestic violence.
14	The appoin	ted m	embers shall include:
15	a	. a	county sheriff selected from a list of three names
16		S	ubmitted by the executive board of the Oklahoma
17		S	heriffs' Association,
18	b	. a	chief of a municipal police department selected from
19		а	list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma
20		A	ssociation of Chiefs of Police,
21	С	. a	n attorney licensed in this state who is in private
22		р	ractice selected from a list of three names submitted
23		b	y the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar

Association,

Req. No. 7072 Page 2

	1
	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
1	0
1	1
1	2
1	3
1	4
1	5
1	6
1	7
1	8
1	9
2	0
2	1

22

23

24

- d. a district attorney selected from a list of three names submitted by the District Attorneys Council,
- e. a physician selected from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma State Medical Association,
- f. a physician selected from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association,
- g. a nurse selected from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Nurses Association,
- h. two individuals, at least one of whom shall be a survivor of domestic violence, selected from lists of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and
- i. a member of the Judiciary selected from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Supreme Court, and
- j. two individuals, at least one of whom shall be an American Indian survivor of domestic violence, selected from a list of three names submitted by the Native Alliance Against Violence, Oklahoma's tribal coalition against domestic violence and sexual assault.
- B. Every two (2) years the Board shall elect from among its membership a chair and a vice-chair. The Board shall meet at least quarterly and may meet more frequently as necessary as determined by

Req. No. 7072 Page 3

```
1
    the chair. Members shall serve without compensation but may be
 2
    reimbursed for necessary travel out of funds available to the Office
 3
    of the Attorney General pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement
 4
    Act; provided, that the reimbursement shall be paid in the case of
 5
    state employee members by the agency employing the member.
 6
        C. With funds appropriated or otherwise available for that
 7
    purpose, the Office of the Attorney General shall provide
 8
    administrative assistance and services to the Domestic Violence
 9
    Fatality Review Board.
10
        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
11
12
        57-1-7072
                               12/14/18
                       GRS
1.3
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
2.1
22
23
```

Req. No. 7072 Page 4

24

1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	HOUSE BILL 2185 By: Brewer
4	
5	
6	AS INTRODUCED
7	An Act relating to prisons and reformatories;
8	amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 571, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 117, O.S.L. 2018 (57 O.S. Supp.
9	2018, Section 571), which relates to violent crime definition; expanding scope of definition to include
10	certain crimes; and providing an effective date.
11	
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
13	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 571, as last
14	amended by Section 4, Chapter 117, O.S.L. 2018 (57 O.S. Supp. 2018,
15	Section 571), is amended to read as follows:
16	Section 571. As used in the Oklahoma Statutes, unless another
17	definition is specified:
18	1. "Capacity" means the actual available bedspace as certified
19	by the State Board of Corrections subject to applicable federal and
20	state laws and the rules and regulations promulgated under such
21	laws;
22	2. "Violent crime" means any of the following felony offenses
23	and any attempts to commit or conspiracy or solicitation to commit
24	the following crimes:

24

- a. assault, battery, or assault and battery with a dangerous or deadly weapon, as provided for in Sections 645 and 652 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- b. assault, battery, or assault and battery with a deadly weapon or by other means likely to produce death or great bodily harm, as provided for in Section 652 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- c. aggravated assault and battery on a police officer, sheriff, highway patrolman, or any other officer of the law, as provided for in Section 650 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- d. poisoning with intent to kill, as provided for in Section 651 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- e. shooting with intent to kill, as provided for in Section 652 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- f. assault with intent to kill, as provided for in Section 653 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- g. assault with intent to commit a felony, as provided for in Section 681 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- h. assaults with a dangerous weapon while masked or disguised, as provided for in Section 1303 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

1 i. murder in the first degree, as provided for in Section 2 701.7 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 3 i. murder in the second degree, as provided for in Section 701.8 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 4 5 k. manslaughter in the first degree, as provided for in Section 711 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 6 7 1. manslaughter in the second degree, as provided for in Section 716 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 8 9 kidnapping, as provided for in Section 741 of Title 21 m. 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 11 n. burglary in the first degree, as provided for in 12 Section 1431 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 1.3 burglary with explosives, as provided for in Section Ο. 14 1441 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 15 kidnapping for extortion, as provided for in Section p. 16 745 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 17 maiming, as provided for in Section 751 of Title 21 of q. 18 the Oklahoma Statutes, 19 robbery, as provided for in Section 791 of Title 21 of r. 20 the Oklahoma Statutes, 2.1 robbery in the first degree, as provided for in s. 22 Section 797 et seg. of Title 21 of the Oklahoma 23 Statutes, 24

1 robbery in the second degree, as provided for in 2 Section 797 et seg. of Title 21 of the Oklahoma 3 Statutes, 4 armed robbery, as provided for in Section 801 of Title u. 5 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, robbery by two or more persons, as provided for in 6 V. 7 Section 800 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, robbery with dangerous weapon or imitation firearm, as 8 9 provided for in Section 801 of Title 21 of the 10 Oklahoma Statutes, 11 child abuse, as provided for in Section 843.5 of Title х. 12 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 1.3 wiring any equipment, vehicle or structure with у. 14 explosives, as provided for in Section 849 of Title 21 15 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 16 forcible sodomy, as provided for in Section 888 of Ζ. 17 Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 18 rape in the first degree, as provided for in Section aa. 19 1114 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 20 bb. rape in the second degree, as provided for in Section 2.1 1114 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 22 rape by instrumentation, as provided for in Section CC. 23 1111.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

24

1 dd. lewd or indecent proposition or lewd or indecent act 2 with a child under sixteen (16) years of age, as provided for in Section 1123 of Title 21 of the 3 4 Oklahoma Statutes, 5 ee. use of a firearm or offensive weapon to commit or attempt to commit a felony, as provided for in Section 6 7 1287 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, ff. pointing firearms, as provided for in Section 1279 of 8 9 Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 10 rioting, as provided for in Section 1311 of Title 21 gg. 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 12 inciting to riot, as provided for in Section 1320.2 of hh. 1.3 Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 14 ii. arson in the first degree, as provided for in Section 15 1401 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 16 injuring or burning public buildings, as provided for jj. 17 in Section 349 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 18 kk. sabotage, as provided for in Section 1262 of Title 21 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 20 11. criminal syndicalism, as provided for in Section 1261 2.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 22 extortion, as provided for in Section 1481 of Title 21 mm. 23 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 24

1	nn.	obtaining signature by extortion, as provided for in
2		Section 1485 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
3	00.	seizure of a bus, discharging firearm or hurling
4		missile at bus, as provided for in Section 1903 of
5		Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
6	pp.	mistreatment of a mental patient, as provided for in
7		Section 843.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
8	qq.	using a vehicle to facilitate the discharge of a
9		weapon pursuant to Section 652 of Title 21 of the
10		Oklahoma Statutes,
11	rr.	bombing offenses as defined in Section 1767.1 of Title
12		21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
13	SS.	child pornography or aggravated child pornography as
14		defined in Section 1021.2, 1021.3, 1024.1 or 1040.12a
15		of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
16	tt.	child prostitution as defined in Section 1030 of Title
17		21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
18	uu.	abuse of a vulnerable adult as defined in Section 10-
19		103 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes who is a
20		resident of a nursing facility,
21	VV.	aggravated trafficking as provided for in subsection C
22		of Section 2-415 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
23	WW.	aggravated assault and battery upon any person
24		defending another person from assault and battery, as

1		provided for in Section 646 of Title 21 of the
2		Oklahoma Statutes,
3	XX.	human trafficking as provided for in Section 748 of
4		Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or
5	уу.	terrorism crimes as provided in Section 1268 et seq.
6		of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or
7	<u>ZZ.</u>	domestic abuse, domestic assault with a dangerous
8		weapon, domestic assault and battery with a dangerous
9		weapon, domestic assault and battery with a deadly
LO		weapon, domestic abuse against a pregnant woman,
L1		domestic abuse resulting in great bodily injury,
L2		domestic abuse committed in the presence of a child or
L3		domestic abuse by strangulation as provided in Section
L 4		644 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
L5	Such offenses	shall constitute exceptions to nonviolent offenses
16	pursuant to A	rticle VI, Section 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution.
L7	SECTION 2	. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
18		
L9	57-1-6913	GRS 01/02/19
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		