ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2395

BY: JOHNSON (Glen) of the HOUSE

and

CULLISON and SHURDEN of the SENATE

AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS; AMENDING 56 O.S. 1991, SECTION 64, WHICH RELATES TO EXEMPTIONS FROM THE OKLAHOMA INDIGENT HEALTH CARE ACT; EXCEPTING THE GEORGE NIGH REHABILITATION INSTITUTE FROM THE EXEMPTIONS; AMENDING 72 O.S. 1991, SECTION 63.18, WHICH RELATES TO THE GEORGE NIGH REHABILITATION INSTITUTE; ADDING LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY; ESTABLISHING THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS CENTER, OKMULGEE DIVISION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 56 O.S. 1991, Section 64, is amended to read as follows:

Section 64. A. The Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act shall not apply to state or federally operated medical institutions except the State of Oklahoma Medical Center <u>and the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs</u>.

Hospitals and clinics participating in the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Implement the screening criteria and procedures and comply with such other eligibility criteria for participation in the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act established pursuant to the provisions of Section 63 of this title.

2. In addition to or as part of other reports required by law or by the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health, annually submit to the State Department of Health reports and data documenting:

a. the total amount of health care costs incurred by the hospital or clinic for medical indigents,

b. total patient charges by the hospital or clinic for medical indigents,

c. the patient mix including, but not limited to, the number of indigent persons served as measured by hospital patient days or clinic encounters as appropriate, and

d. such other information and in such form as may be required by the State Department of Health pursuant to the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act.

Such documentation shall indicate that the person served or the party responsible for such person meets the criteria established by the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act. Such documentation shall also be specific as to the county of residence of the person served. These records shall be available to the public upon request.

B. Clinics shall submit to the Department of Human Services necessary information to certify eligible clinic status pursuant to Section 58 of this title.

C. The State Department of Health shall forward copies of such documentation to the Department of Human Services as necessary for use by the Department in determining the eligibility of a hospital or a clinic for reimbursement pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act. The State Department of Health

and the Department of Human Services shall cooperate for the purpose of coordinating the reports and documentation required by the Oklahoma Indigent Health Care Act, and ensuring the timely transmission of said reports and documentation between, said agencies.

D. The State Department of Health may expand or modify the reporting requirements of hospitals and establish reporting requirements for clinics as necessary to complete the study required by Section 66.2 of this title.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 1991, Section 63.18, is amended to read as follows:

Section 63.18 A. The facility known as the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, described as follows: A tract of land located in Lot 1, Section 7, Township 21 North, Range 16 East of I.B.&M., further described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest Corner of said Lot 1, thence N 89 degrees 42' 40" East along the North line thereof 671.00 feet; thence South parallel to the West line of said Lot 1, 750.00 feet; thence N 89 degrees 42' 40" East 361.51 feet; thence South 567.53 feet to the South line of said Lot 1; thence South 89 degrees 44' West along the South line of said Lot 1, 1032.51 feet to the Southwest Corner thereof; thence North 1317.14 feet to the point of beginning, said tract containing 25 acres, more or less is hereby transferred from the Department of Human Services to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs to be administered pursuant to such rules and policies as prescribed by the War Veterans Commission of Oklahoma. The transfer shall include all real property, buildings, furniture, equipment, supplies, records, personnel, assets, current and future liabilities, fund balances, encumbrances, obligations, indebtedness, powers, duties and responsibilities associated with the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute. Additionally, there is hereby established

the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Okmulgee Division, as a component of such facility to be operated in accordance with Title 38 CFR 17.165.

B. All monies remaining in any funds or accounts in the name of the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute or maintained by the Department of Human Services for the benefit of the Institute are transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Any remaining bond proceeds and the interest earned on the bond proceeds associated with the construction of the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute which would otherwise be payable to the Department of Human Services are transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

C. All employees of the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute on the effective date of this act shall be transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs without loss of pay, seniority, rights, privileges or benefits, and without change in status, whether classified or unclassified, as provided in the Oklahoma Personnel Act.

D. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs may contract with the Department of Human Services for the completion of construction of the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute by the construction crews of the Department of Human Services. If the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs contracts with the Department of Human Services, the Department of Human Services shall give priority to the completion of the Institute.

E. In addition to war veterans, the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs may accept any other persons as patients at the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute.

F. The Director of Public Affairs, the Director of State Finance and the Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management shall coordinate the transfers made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective September 1, 1992.

Passed the House of Representatives the 3rd day of March, 1992.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1992.

President of the Senate