

ENGROSSED HOUSE
JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1060

BY: STEIDLEY, MAXEY and
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A JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING THE STATE JUDICIAL SYSTEM TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE STATE JUDICIAL SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR COMPOSITION OF THE TASK FORCE; PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENTS AND FILLING OF VACANCIES; SPECIFYING A QUORUM; AUTHORIZING DESIGNEES; PROVIDING FOR SELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN; PROVIDING FOR THE CALLING OF THE INITIAL MEETING; REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OKLAHOMA OPEN MEETING ACT; PROVIDING FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING; PROVIDING FOR STAFF ASSISTANCE; AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF CONSULTANTS OR CONSULTING FIRMS; REQUIRING A REPORT BY A CERTAIN DATE; DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many complex issues concerning the state judicial system have come to the attention of the Oklahoma Legislature; and

WHEREAS, an in-depth study of the state judicial system is warranted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 43RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created, to continue until January 1, 1994, the State Judicial System Task Force. The Task Force shall conduct a comprehensive study of the state judicial system. The Task Force shall be composed as follows:

1. One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
2. One member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
3. Two district court judges, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

4. Two appellate judges, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

5. Two court clerks, appointed by the Court Clerks Association;

6. Two attorneys licensed to practice law in this state, appointed by the President of the Oklahoma Bar Association; and

7. Two individuals who are not members of the Legislature, members of the judiciary, or attorneys, appointed by the Governor.

Vacancies on the Task Force shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

SECTION 2. A majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum for conducting business, but no vacancy on the Task Force shall impair the right of the remaining members to transact the business of the Task Force. Each member of the Task Force shall be authorized to serve by and through a person designated by the member in writing for that purpose. The members shall select a chairman and a vice-chairman from the membership of the Task Force; provided, not more than one legislative member and not more than one judicial member shall serve in such capacity. The initial meeting of the Task Force shall be called by the Administrative Director of the Courts. All meetings of the Task Force shall be conducted in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

SECTION 3. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, other than reimbursement for actual and necessary travel expenses as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall receive reimbursement from the House in which they serve as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act, except when the Legislature is in session and the meeting is held in Oklahoma City;

2. Nonlegislative committee members employed by the state or a county shall be reimbursed by their respective employing agency pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act; and

3. Any other committee member shall receive reimbursement pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act from funds of the Legislative Service Bureau.

SECTION 4. Funding for the Task Force shall be provided through the Legislative Service Bureau. The Legislative Service Bureau shall provide staff assistance to the Task Force. The Oklahoma State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives may provide additional staff assistance to the Task Force. At the direction of the Joint Committee on Fiscal Operations, the Legislative Service Bureau may contract for the services of appropriate consultants or consulting firms to assist the Task Force in the performance of its duties and responsibilities. The Joint Committee on Fiscal Operations shall select consultants on the basis of a request for proposal which shall be developed by the Joint Committee on Fiscal Operations with the advice of the Task Force.

SECTION 5. The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by January 1, 1994.

SECTION 6. Copies of this resolution shall be dispatched to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Governor, the Administrative Director of the Courts, and the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Bar Association.

SECTION 7. This act shall become effective September 1, 1992.

Passed the House of Representatives the 17th day of February, 1992.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1992.

President of the Senate