

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1451

By: Boyd (Betty)

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to poor persons; creating a Department of Rehabilitation and Disability; providing for appointment, qualifications and terms of a Commission of Rehabilitation and Disability; providing for powers and duties; providing for transfer of certain powers and duties from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Rehabilitation and Disability; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4000 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created a Department of Rehabilitation and Disability. This Department's governing board shall be the Commission of Rehabilitation and Disability. The Department of Rehabilitation and Disability shall exercise all functions of the state in relation to the administration of all state responsibilities for the care and treatment of the physically disabled.

1. Effective July 1, 1993, the Division of Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Human Services consisting of rehabilitation services, visual services, the Oklahoma School of the Deaf, the Oklahoma School for the Blind, the Disability Determination Unit, the library for the blind and physically handicapped, Randolph Sheppard vendor operations, and special services for the deaf shall be transferred to the Department of Rehabilitation and Disability.

2. All personnel, equipment, supplies, property, files, and records, including trust funds and revolving funds and other assets owned or possessed by the Department of Human Services relating to the Division of Rehabilitation Services are hereby transferred to the Department of Rehabilitation and Disability. All contracts, leases, agreements and obligations to which the Department of Human Services is a party for or on behalf of such Division shall be assumed by the Department of Rehabilitation and Disability.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4001 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Commission of Rehabilitation and Disability shall be composed of five (5) members appointed by the Governor with the advise and consent of the Senate.

By May 1, 1993, the Governor shall have appointed the members for terms as follows:

Two members shall serve terms ending June 1, 1995, two members shall serve terms ending July 1, 1997, and one member shall serve a term ending July 1, 1999.

At the expiration of such initial terms, members shall be appointed for five (5) years. Upon the vacancy of any term, a successor shall be appointed to fill the unexpired term.

B. By August 1, 1993, the Commission shall have elected a chairman and vice-chairman of the Commission. The chairman may call

meetings of the Commission at any time. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

C. The members of the Commission may be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred in the exercise of their lawful responsibilities pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

D. The duties of the Commission shall pertain to the care and treatment of the physically disabled.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-1-5904

KSM