

SHORT TITLE: State government; establishing the Title 63
Recodification Committee; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

SENATE BILL NO. 552

By: Brown

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; stating legislative intent; establishing the Title 63 Recodification Committee; directing cooperation; providing for membership, method of appointment, term and procedure for vacancies; stating purpose and duties of Committee; establishing dates for Committee to submit report and recommendations; providing termination date for Committee; providing for appointment of chair and co-chair; authorizing travel reimbursement; providing for meetings, quorum and recordkeeping; authorizing staff assistance; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Due to the influence of passing time and changes to an established body of law as a result of such factors as additions, amendments and court decisions, the original clarity and convenience of that body of law is affected. Therefore, the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes that it is appropriate to review such a body of law and to recommend a reorganization of the law which will restore clarity and convenience for the benefit of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma and all other interested parties.

The Oklahoma Legislature finds that Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes has incurred those influences which lead to a loss of clarity and convenience, and it is therefore the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that a study of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes be conducted and recommendations for revision and recodification made which can lead to a restoration of that body of law for the purposes of clarity and convenience.

SECTION 2. A. The 44th Legislature hereby establishes the Title 63 Recodification Committee and directs said Committee to undertake a full, good faith and thorough study and recommended revision and recodification of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. All departments, officers, agencies and employees of this state shall cooperate with the Committee in carrying out their respective duties and responsibilities, including providing any information, records and reports as may be requested by the Chair of the Committee.

SECTION 3. The Title 63 Recodification Committee shall consist of the persons or their designee or their successor appointed as follows:

1. Each member of the Title 63 Recodification Committee initially appointed shall make his appointment known to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by August 1, 1993. Appointed members shall serve until June 30, 1995;

2. The Chair shall call the first meeting of the Title 63 Recodification Committee for no later than September 15, 1993;

3. The Chair of the Committee may designate as many subcommittees as he deems appropriate. Chairs and members of any subcommittees so designated by the Chair shall be appointed from the members of the Committee; and

4. Any vacancies in the appointive membership of the Committee shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 4. A. The purposes of the Title 63 Recodification Committee shall be to conduct a systematic review and study of Title 63 and prepare a draft which will include but not be limited to recommendations which will:

1. Consolidate and renumber similar statutes;
2. Repeal obsolete or duplicate statutes or any statutes which shall have been declared unconstitutional by court decision;
3. Incorporate as many existing statutes relating to existing bodies of law within Title 63 found throughout the Oklahoma Statutes as is practicable;
4. Clarify and update existing statutory language;
5. Recodify bodies of law when the move will improve the location, use, application and appropriateness of the law; and
6. Perform any other act necessary to complete the above purposes of the Committee.

B. The Committee shall be responsible for drafting recommended legislation in accordance with the current legislative drafting procedures.

C. 1. The Committee shall prepare a final draft of a recommended recodification of Title 63 and shall submit said recommended draft to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, 1994.

2. If, after the Committee submits the recommended recodification, the Committee determines the recodification needs additional revisions, said revisions shall be submitted as one final amendment. The recommended amendment shall be submitted to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives not later than January 7, 1995.

3. The Committee shall submit a summary of every recommended change and addition to existing laws at the time the recommended recodification and amendments are presented to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

D. The Title 63 Recodification Committee shall provide a written progress report to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before March 1, 1994.

E. The Committee shall cease to function June 30, 1995.

SECTION 5. A. Within fifteen (15) days from the initial appointment of membership for the Title 63 Recodification Committee, the Chair and co-chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives from the membership of the Committee, who shall serve until June 30, 1995.

B. The Committee shall meet at least one time per month and at such other times as may be set by the Chair of the Committee. The Chair or his designee shall preside at meetings.

C. Members of the Committee shall receive no salary; however, all members of the Committee shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary travel expenses as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Committee shall receive reimbursement from the house in which they serve as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, except when the Legislature is in session and the meeting is held in Oklahoma City;

2. Nonlegislative members of the Committee employed by the state shall be reimbursed by their respective employing agency pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

3. Any other members of the Committee shall receive reimbursement pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, from funds of the Legislative Service Bureau;

E. A majority of the members appointed shall constitute a quorum and a majority present may act for the Committee.

F. Meetings of the Committee shall comply with the provisions of the Open Meeting Act, Section 301 et seq. of Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

G. The Committee shall keep minutes of meetings and voting records of each appointed member on file pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Records Act, Section 24A.1 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 6. The Oklahoma State Senate, the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Legislative Service Bureau may provide staff assistance to the Title 63 Recodification Committee as necessary to assist the Committee in the performance of its duties.

SECTION 7. The provisions of Sections 1 through 6 of this act shall not be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 1993.

SECTION 9. 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.

44-1-0169

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