

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2529

By: Pope (Tim)

An Act relating to prisons and reformatories;
amending 57 O.S. 1991, Section 515, which relates
to probation and parole officers; modifying term;
specifying duties of probation and parole officers;
requiring a course of instruction; providing for
issuance of commission; providing probationary
period; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 1991, Section 515, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 515. A. ~~Except as provided in subsection B of this section, all probation-parole~~ Probation and parole officers shall be ~~deemed~~ commissioned peace officers and shall possess the powers granted by law to peace officers. ~~Probation-parole~~ Probation and parole officers shall meet all of the training and qualifications for peace officers required by Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Qualifications for ~~probation-parole~~ probation and parole officers shall be good character and, except for those probation-parole officers employed prior to May 4, 1974, a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university including at least twenty-four (24) credit hours in any combination of psychology, sociology, social work, criminology, education, criminal

justice administration, penology or police science. ~~Provided, that~~
~~any~~ Any employee of the Department, formerly classified and who
worked as a ~~probation-parole~~ probation and parole officer for at
least one (1) year, who was later promoted to an administrative or
supervisory position within the Department and who has been employed
continuously by the Department may be reappointed to the position of
~~probation-parole~~ probation and parole officer without having to meet
the currently established qualifications in this act.

B. ~~Persons employed as probation-parole officers on or before~~
~~July 1, 1988, shall not be qualified and certified as peace officers~~
~~until completion of the requirements of Section 3311 of Title 70 of~~
~~the Oklahoma Statutes. Said officers shall complete the~~
~~requirements prior to January 1, 1990. The peace officer authority~~
~~of probation and parole officers shall be for the purpose of~~
~~arresting, pursuing, recapturing, incarcerating and maintaining~~
~~custody of probation or parole violators, prisoners or escapees,~~
~~servicing warrants and other duties as provided by law. This~~
~~authority may be exercised outside this state as authorized by the~~
~~Uniform Criminal Extradition Act. The Director shall commission~~
~~probation and parole officers as peace officers and determine how~~
~~the peace officer authority of probation and parole officers shall~~
~~be exercised. The commission shall be issued upon successful~~
~~completion of a course of instruction certified by the Council on~~
~~Law Enforcement Education and Training for the performance of peace~~
~~officer duties by probation and parole officers. The probationary~~
~~period for any probation and parole officer appointed by the~~
~~Department of Corrections shall include six (6) months, in addition~~
~~to the required probationary period prescribed by the Office of~~
~~Personnel Management Merit Rules. Probation and parole officers may~~
~~assist other law enforcement agencies upon the request of the agency~~
~~and with the prior approval of the supervisor of the probation and~~
~~parole officer.~~

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1996.

Passed the House of Representatives the 26th day of February,
1996.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1996.

President of the Senate