ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 692

By: Weedn of the Senate

and

Cox and Bastin of the House

[state government - 74 O.S. 1991 - Office of Handicapped Concerns - changing the name - travel reimbursement - effective date]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.22, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.22 The Office of Handicapped Concerns shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To identify the needs of ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities on a continuing basis and to attempt to meet those needs;

2. To serve as a referral and information source for ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities seeking services and for agencies seeking assistance in their provision of services;

3. To generate community awareness and support of ~~handicapped~~ programs for people with disabilities;

4. To advise and assist the Governor and the Legislature in developing policies to meet the needs of ~~handicapped citizens~~ people with disabilities; and

5. To assist agencies in meeting the requirements of Public Law 93-112, and subsequent amendments thereto, as the same ~~pertains~~ pertain to ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.24, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.24 The Office of Handicapped Concerns shall be responsible for the following duties:

1. To carry out the responsibilities of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities;

2. To provide referral assistance, continuing needs assessment and to advise and assist private and public agencies in statewide policy development concerning ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities; and

3. To implement the provisions of Public Law 93-112, and subsequent amendments thereto, as such ~~pertains~~ pertain to ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.25, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.25 The Office of Handicapped Concerns shall be assisted by the Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities and the Governor's Advisory Committee to the Office of Handicapped Concerns.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.26, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.26 The Governor's Advisory Committee to the Office of Handicapped Concerns shall be composed of forty (40) members who shall be appointed by the Governor. Such members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Twenty of such members shall be ~~handicapped persons~~ people with disabilities or the parents of ~~handicapped persons~~ people with disabilities. All members of the Committee traveling on authorized state business may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in such travel in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of this title.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.28, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.28 All the powers, duties, functions, records, employees, property, matters pending and funds of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities are hereby transferred to the Office of Handicapped Concerns.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.29, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.29 There is hereby created within the Office of Handicapped Concerns a division for "The Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities".

SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.30, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.30 The purpose of this act is to carry on a continuing program to promote the employment of the physically, mentally, emotionally, and otherwise ~~handicapped citizens~~ people with disabilities of Oklahoma by creating statewide interest in the rehabilitation and employment of ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities, and by obtaining and maintaining cooperation with all public and private groups and individuals in this field. The Governor's Committee shall work in close cooperation with the President's Committee on Employment of ~~the Physically Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities to more effectively carry out the purpose of this act, and with state and federal agencies having responsibilities for employment and rehabilitation of ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities.

SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.31, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.31 The Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities shall consist of not more than seventy-five (75) members composed of state leaders of industry, business, agriculture, labor, veterans, women, religious,

educational, civic, fraternal, welfare, scientific, and medical and other professions, groups or individuals who shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of two (2), four (4) or six (6) years. Vacancies on the Committee shall be filled by the Governor. All members of the Committee traveling on authorized state business may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in such travel in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of this title.

SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.32, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.32 The Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities shall elect from its membership, a ~~chairman~~ chair, ~~vice-chairman~~ vice-chair, secretary-treasurer, and eight other members to serve on the executive committee. The officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year, but may succeed themselves. The administrative powers and duties of the Committee shall be vested in the executive committee. An organizational meeting shall be held within sixty (60) days after fifty members of the Committee have been appointed and qualified. The full Committee shall meet semiannually, but, at the request of the ~~chairman~~ chair or executive committee, special meetings may be called. The executive committee shall meet quarterly, but special meetings may be called by the ~~chairman~~ chair or six members of the executive committee.

SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.34, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.34 The Office of Handicapped Concerns shall accept, hold in trust, and authorize the use of any grant or devise of land, or any donations or bequests of money or other personal property made to the Office so long as the terms of the grant, donation, bequest or will are carried out. The Office may invest and reinvest any funds and money, lease, or sell any real or personal property,

and invest the proceeds for the purpose of promoting the well-being of ~~the handicapped~~ people with disabilities unless prohibited by the terms of the grant, donation, bequest, gift, or will. If, due to circumstances, the requests of the person or persons making the grant, donation, bequest, gift, or will cannot be carried out, the Office shall have the authority to use the remainder thereof for the purposes of this act. Said funds shall be deposited to the revolving fund to carry out the provisions of this act. Such gifts, donations, bequests, or grants shall be exempt for tax purposes. The Office shall report annually to the Governor all monies and properties received and expended by virtue of this section.

SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 9.35, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9.35 The Governor's Advisory Committee on Employment of ~~the Handicapped~~ People with Disabilities shall be nonpartisan, nonprofit, and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles, nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

SECTION 12. This act shall become effective November 1, 1996.

Passed the Senate the 26th day of February, 1996.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 1996.

Speaker of the House of Representatives