

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 694

By: Monson

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to state government; amending Section 2, Chapter 189, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 666), which relates to the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women; making Commission subject to Sunset Law; prescribing certain oath of Commission members; stating quorum; amending Section 5, Chapter 189, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 669), which relates to powers and duties of certain Commission; authorizing certain Commission to adopt rules; authorizing certain contracts; authorizing employment of staff; exempting members of Commission from dual office holding prohibition; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 189, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 666), is amended to read as follows:

Section 666. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women to continue until July 1, 2003, in accordance with the Oklahoma Sunset Law, Section 3901 et seq. of this title.

The Commission shall consist of thirty (30) members. No later than August 1, 1994, the members shall be appointed as follows: two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending June 30, 1995; two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending June 30, 1996; two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending June 30, 1997; two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending June 30, 1998; and two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending June 30, 1999. As the terms of office of such appointees expire, their successors shall be appointed by the appropriate appointing authority for a term of five (5) years. In making such appointments to the Commission, consideration shall be given to making the membership broadly representative of the geographic areas of the state and the several racial, religious and ethnic groups residing in the state. Each member shall hold office until the successor of the member is appointed and has qualified. A member of the Commission may be

removed by the appropriate appointing authority for cause. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of a term of a member separated from the Commission for any cause shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of the member whose office has been so vacated. Members of the Commission shall take the oath provided by law for public officials. Members of the Commission shall receive no salary, but shall be entitled to travel reimbursement as provided by the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of this title, from funds available to the appropriate appointing authority.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 189, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 669), is amended to read as follows:

Section 669. The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women shall have the power and the duty to:

1. Promulgate rules pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, Section 250 et seq. of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes, including organizational rules pursuant to Section 302 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes and rules for determination of a quorum;

2. Act as an advisory entity on equity issues relating to gender bias not only to state agencies and employees, but to communities, organizations and businesses of this state which desire the services of the Commission;

~~2.~~ 3. Act as a monitor on legislation as to whether the legislation is discriminatory toward one gender or the other or whether the gender of an individual would have an effect on the enforcement of the legislation;

~~3.~~ 4. Act as a resource and a clearinghouse for research on issues related to women and gender bias;

~~4.~~ 5. Conduct meetings and seminars within the state as appropriate to support the goals and duties of the Commission; and

~~5.~~ 6. Make an annual report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of its activities under this act. Such recommendations may include recommendations concerning needed legislation or regulatory changes relating to equity and gender bias.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 670 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Commission may contract for services or employ staff, as needed, to fulfill its duties and responsibilities. The Commission may enter into a contract which includes an agreement with a state agency, board or commission to provide administrative support to the Commission.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 671 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Members of the Commission shall be exempt from the provisions of Section 6 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which prohibits the holding of other office during the member's term of office on the Commission.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 1997.

SECTION 6. 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.

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