

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1391

By: Seikel

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to children; creating the Service Coordination for Children Act; providing short title; stating purpose; directing certain state agencies to jointly design and implement a certain coordinated system of information, referral and follow-up services for children; assigning certain responsibilities to certain state agencies; providing for certain meetings, technical assistance, plans, recommendations, policies, procedures, designs, data base, intake data set, confidentiality and reports; providing for the contents of the coordinated system; establishing certain deadlines; requiring certain interagency agreements; 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 4001 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Service Coordination for Children Act".

B. The purpose of the Service Coordination for Children Act is to establish an automated coordinated system that provides for the following actions: Intake of information, referral, follow-up services and development of specified outcome indicators for children using public services in the state.

C. The system is to be implemented through interagency agreements and will utilize a shared, computerized data base in order to reduce duplication and improve efficiency in the delivery of such services. The data base is to be jointly developed, implemented and utilized by the public agencies responsible for intake information, referral and follow-up services to Oklahoma children and private agencies that provide such services pursuant to a contract with a state agency.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4002 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The following agencies are directed to jointly design and implement an automated coordinated system of intake information, referral and follow-up services and policy indicators for children:

1. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services;
2. The State Department of Health;
3. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services;
4. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority;
5. The Oklahoma Department of Education;
6. The Office of State Finance;
7. The Office of Juvenile Affairs;
8. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth; and
9. The Department of Rehabilitative Services.

B. 1. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services shall be the lead agency for the design and implementation of the system required by the Service Coordination for Children Act and shall be

responsible for convening meetings and providing meeting space, administrative staff and other necessary support services. The Department shall schedule meetings in conjunction with the Coordination of Services for Older Oklahomans Task Force.

2. The remaining agencies listed in subsection A of this section shall be responsible for providing information, staff and other assistance as necessary to design and implement the system required by the Service Coordination for Children Act.

C. On or before December 1 of each year, the agencies listed in subsection A of this section shall jointly submit a report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the chairs of the appropriate legislative committees. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

1. A statement on the progress in the design and implementation of the system required by the Service Coordination for Children Act; and

2. Identification of any statutory changes and funding necessary to implement the system.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4003 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The design of an automated coordinated system of intake information, referral and follow-up services as well as formation of specified outcome indicators for children shall:

1. Be based upon efforts currently underway through the data matching project initiated by the Needs-based Services Committee of the State Planning and Coordinating Council for Services to Children and Youth;

2. Be consistent with the data sharing design to be recommended and utilized by the Coordination of Services for Older Oklahomans Act task force; and

3. Include, but not be limited to:
 - a. delineation of agency responsibilities, and the methods of coordinating the delivery of services,
 - b. identification of programs and procedures necessary for implementation, and adoption of such procedures by the responsible agencies,
 - c. the adoption of common service procedures across program and agency lines,
 - d. identification of specified children outcome indicators that affect multiple programs and agencies,
 - e. the use of common referral and other forms,
 - f. the development of a shared, computerized data base to identify client information necessary to reduce duplication of effort, improve service delivery, and allow tracking of specified outcomes for children. This should include a common intake data set,
 - g. procedures for sharing confidential information in accordance with state and federal laws, which shall include, but not be limited to, methods for restricting access to confidential information and for sharing confidential information between public and private agencies and individuals in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth in interagency agreements pursuant to the Service Coordination for Children Act,
 - h. joint training of personnel responsible for implementation of the system and delivery of services,
 - i. methods for resolving disputes by mediation or other means,
 - j. a funding and implementation plan, which may include phased-in implementation, and

k. procedures for coordinating, monitoring and improving services and data collection.

B. 1. Preliminary recommendations for the data base and coordinated system shall be completed on or before October 1, 1997.

2. On or before January 1, 1998, the agencies subject to the provisions of the Service Coordination for Children Act shall enter into interagency agreements to implement the coordinated system.

SECTION 4. 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.

46-1-6240

KSM