

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1475

By: Reese

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to juvenile records; amending Sections 180 and 181, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Sections 6 and 7, Chapter 211, O.S.L. 1996 (10 O.S. Supp. 1996, Sections 7307-1.4 and 7307-1.5), which relate to access to juvenile records without a court order; authorizing release to employees of Department of Corrections; amending 57 O.S. 1991, Section 530.1, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 168, O.S.L. 1996 (57 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 530.1), which relates to duties of the Department of Corrections in regards to assessment of inmates; requiring Department to obtain and consider juvenile records for assessment and placement process and make part of permanent record of inmate; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 180, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 211, O.S.L. 1996 (10 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 7307-1.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7307-1.4 A. Juvenile court records which are confidential may be inspected, and their contents shall be disclosed, without a court order to the following persons upon showing of proper credentials and pursuant to lawful duties:

1. The judge having the child currently before the court in any proceeding pursuant to the Oklahoma Juvenile Code, or any judge of the district court or tribal court to which such proceedings may be transferred;

2. Employees and officers of the court in the performance of their duties, including but not limited to guardians ad litem appointed by the court;

3. Members of review boards established pursuant to Sections 1116.2 and 1116.6 of this title. In addition to juvenile court records, any member of such review boards may inspect, without a court order, information including but not be limited to:

- a. psychological and medical records,
- b. placement history and information, including the names and addresses of foster parents,
- c. family assessments,
- d. treatment or service plans, and
- e. school records;

4. A district attorney and the employees of an office of a district attorney in the course of their official duties;

5. The attorney representing a child who is the subject of a juvenile proceeding pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The attorney representing a child or considering representing a child in a juvenile proceeding may also access other records listed in subsection A of Section 7307-1.2 of this title for use in the legal representation of the child;

6. Employees of juvenile bureaus in the course of their official duties;

7. Employees of the Department of Juvenile Justice in the course of their official duties;

8. Employees of a law enforcement agency in the course of their official duties pertaining to the investigation of a crime committed or alleged to have been committed by a person under eighteen (18) years of age. Records or information disclosed pursuant to this paragraph may consist of summaries or may be limited to the information or records necessary for the purpose of the investigation;

9. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth;

10. The Department of Juvenile Justice or other public or private agency or any individual having court-ordered custody or custody pursuant to Department of Juvenile Justice placement of the child who is the subject of the record;

11. The Department of Human Services;

12. The child who is the subject of the record and the parents, legal guardian, legal custodian or foster parent of said child;

13. Any federally recognized Indian tribe in which the child who is the subject of the record is a member, or is eligible to become a member of the tribe due to the child being the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federal Indian Child Welfare Act, P.L. 95-608, and the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Act; provided such Indian tribe member, in the course of official duties:

- a. is investigating a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect or crimes against children or for the purpose of determining whether to place a child in protective custody, or
- b. is providing services to or for the benefit of a child including but not limited to protective, emergency, social and medical services;

14. Any federally recognized Indian tribe in which the tribe, the tribal court or the tribal child welfare program has asserted jurisdiction or intervened in any case in which the child is the subject of the proceedings or is a party to the proceedings pursuant to the authority provided in the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Act.

The records that are to be provided to Indian tribes pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall include all case records, reports and documents as defined in this chapter;

15. The Governor or to any person the Governor designates, in writing;

16. Any federal official of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; ~~and~~

17. The chairman of any standing or special committee of the Legislature where a subpoena, authorized by law, has been issued by the committee requesting the records; and

18. Employees of the Department of Corrections in the course of their official duties.

B. Records and their contents disclosed without an order of the court as provided by the provisions of this section shall remain confidential. The use of any information shall be limited to the purposes for which disclosure is authorized. It shall be unlawful for any person to furnish any confidential record or disclose any confidential information contained in any juvenile record for commercial, political or any other unauthorized purpose. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 181, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 7, Chapter 211, O.S.L. 1996 (10 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 7307-1.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7307-1.5 A. Department of Juvenile Justice agency records pertaining to a child which are confidential may be

inspected and their contents disclosed without a court order to the following persons upon showing of proper credentials:

1. The judge having the child currently before the court in any proceeding pursuant to this title, any judge of the district court or tribal court to which any proceedings may be transferred;

2. Employees and officers of the court in the performance of their duties, including but not limited to guardians ad litem appointed by the court, and members of review boards established pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code;

3. A district attorney and the employees of an office of a district attorney in the course of their official duties pursuant to this title or the prosecution of crimes against children;

4. The attorney representing a child who is the subject of a juvenile proceeding pursuant to the provisions of this title. The attorney representing a child or an attorney considering representing a child in a juvenile proceeding may access other confidential records listed in subsection A of Section 7307-1.2 of this title for use in the legal representation of the child;

5. Employees of juvenile bureaus in the course of their official duties;

6. Employees of a law enforcement agency of this or another state and employees of a child protective service of another state or any federally recognized Indian tribe member in the course of their official duties pertaining to investigations of a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect or crimes against children or for the purpose of determining whether to place a child in protective custody;

7. Employees of a law enforcement agency in the course of their official duties pertaining to the investigation of a crime committed or alleged to have been committed by a person under eighteen (18) years of age. Records or information disclosed pursuant to this subparagraph may consist of summaries or may be limited to the

information or records necessary for the purpose of the investigation;

8. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth;

9. The Department of Human Services;

10. Any public or private agency or person authorized by the Department of Juvenile Justice to diagnose, or provide care, treatment, supervision or other services to a child who is the subject of a report or record of delinquency, child abuse or neglect, or other adjudicatory category, provided the Department may limit the disclosure to summaries or to information directly necessary for the purpose of the disclosure;

11. Any federally recognized Indian tribe or state or county child protective services or child welfare agency providing for or supervising the diagnosis, care, treatment, supervision or other services provided such child;

12. The parents of the child who is the subject of any records;

13. Any person or agency for research purposes, if all of the following conditions are met:

- a. the person or agency conducting the research is employed by the State of Oklahoma or is under contract with this state and is authorized by the Department of Human Services to conduct the research, and
- b. the person or agency conducting the research ensures that all documents containing identifying information are maintained in secure locations and access to any documents by unauthorized persons is prohibited; that no identifying information is included in documents generated from the research conducted; and that all identifying information is deleted from documents used in the research when the research is completed;

14. The Governor or to any person the Governor designates, in writing; and

15. Any federal official of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

16. Employees of the Department of Corrections in the course of their official duties.

B. Records and their contents disclosed without an order of the court as provided by the provisions of this section shall remain confidential. The use of any information shall be limited to the purposes for which disclosure is authorized. It shall be unlawful for any person to furnish any confidential record or disclose any confidential information contained in any juvenile record for commercial, political or any other unauthorized purpose. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 1991, Section 530.1, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 168, O.S.L. 1996 (57 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 530.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 530.1 A. The Department of Corrections, by the rules of that Department, shall have the following duties which shall be performed as part of the assessment and reception process of the Department of Corrections, upon reception of each inmate:

1. To administer, or cause to be administered, physical and psychological examination of all inmates;
2. To inventory the vocational skills of all inmates;
3. To assess the educational and training needs of all inmates;
4. To determine from available records and interviews, the place of birth of new inmates. The Department of Corrections shall furnish a list of foreign-born nationals and suspected foreign-born nationals to the Immigration and Naturalization Service on a weekly basis;
5. To determine initial security and custody classifications;
6. To determine and recommend for placement in an alcohol or substance abuse treatment facility or program, as provided for in

this section, any inmate convicted of alcohol related offenses or otherwise in need of alcohol or substance abuse treatment;

7. To determine and recommend for placement in the Department of Corrections Special Care Unit at the State Penitentiary at McAlester any inmate who is in need of acute psychiatric care;

8. To plan for immediate assignments to institutions, community treatment centers, alcohol or substance abuse treatment centers or programs, alternatives to incarceration authorized by law, or other facilities, public or private, designated by the Department;

9. To recommend possible future assignments to institutions, community treatment centers, alcohol or substance abuse treatment centers or programs, alternatives to incarceration authorized by law, or other facilities designated by the Department; ~~and~~

10. To provide orientation and instruction with respect to rules and procedures for prisoners; and

11. To obtain all juvenile records, if any, pertaining to inmates to make those juvenile records a part of the permanent record maintained by the Department regarding the inmate and to use the information contained in those records to determine security level and placement of inmates.

B. An alcohol or substance abuse treatment center in which an inmate is placed shall provide services and standards of treatment as provided by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services under its rules for alcoholism or substance abuse treatment. Upon placement of a prisoner in a center for alcoholism or substance abuse treatment, the Department of Corrections shall enter into a third party contract with such center for the custodial and professional services rendered to any prisoner. Such contract may include requirements imposed by law on the Department of Corrections or reimbursement for such services, if necessary. The Department of Corrections is further authorized to enter into third party contracts for substance abuse treatment programs which are

certified by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to provide professional services on an outpatient basis to prisoners in need of substance abuse treatment and follow-up treatment while assigned to alternatives to incarceration.

C. The Department of Corrections shall adopt rules governing the implementation of this section within sixty (60) days from the effective date of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1997.

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