

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2396

By: Steidley

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to children; creating the Agency for Children's Services; creating the position of Commissioner of Children's Services; transferring certain divisions from the Department of Human Services and from the State Board of Health; providing for duties; creating the Agency for Children's Services Study Commission; providing for purpose, duties, appointments, travel expenses and staffing; providing for codification; providing an effective date; 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 601.51 of Title 10, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Effective July 1, 2000, There is hereby created the Agency for Children's Services under the administrative control of the Commissioner of Children's Services which shall include:

1. The following divisions within the Department of Human Services:

- a. the Children, Youth and Family Services Division, and
- b. the Office of Child Care; and

2. The Child Guidance Services section of the State Department of Health.

B. The Agency for Children's Services shall have responsibility for the implementation of policy and the monitoring of all programs providing services to children in this state.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 601.52 of Title 10, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Effective July 1, 2000, the Division of Children, Youth and Family Services and the Office of Child Care within the Department of Human Services and the Child Guidance Services section within the State Department of Health are hereby transferred from the Commission for Human Services and the Department of Human Services and the State Board of Health and the State Department of Health respectively to the Agency for Children's Services, created pursuant to this act and shall be under the jurisdiction, supervision, management and control of the Agency for Children's Services.

B. The transfer shall include all powers, duties, responsibilities, properties, assets, equipment, fund balances, encumbrances, obligations, records, personnel and liability for all Agency for Children's Services employees' sick leave, annual leave, holidays, unemployment benefits and workers' compensation benefits accruing to employees prior to the effective date of this act, which are attributable to the Agency for Children's Services.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 601.53 of Title 10, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until July 1, 1999, the Agency for Children's Services Study Commission for the purpose of studying and making recommendations to the Oklahoma State Legislature regarding the transfer of services for children to the Agency for Children's Services.

B. The Study Commission shall make reports of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Oklahoma State Legislature. The Study Commission shall make its initial report of findings to the Governor and the Oklahoma State Legislature no later than January 15, 2000.

C. The Study Commission shall be composed of fifteen (15) members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, five of whom shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and five of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed by the Commission on Children and Youth for travel pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

D. Staffing for the Study Commission shall be provided by the Commission on Children and Youth.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

SECTION 5. 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.

46-2-8063

KSM