

\*\*\*\*\*

SHORT TITLE: Crimes and punishment; prohibiting desertion of any spouse; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE BILL NO. 502

By: Wright

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending 21 O.S. 1991, Section 853, which relates to desertion of wife or child; making gender neutral; modifying language; prohibiting desertion of any spouse; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 1991, Section 853, is amended to read as follows:

Section 853. Every person who shall without good cause abandon his ~~wife~~ or her spouse in destitute or necessitous circumstances and neglect and refuse to maintain or provide for ~~her~~ such spouse, or who shall abandon his or her minor child or children under ~~the age of~~ fifteen (15) years of age and willfully neglect or refuse to maintain or provide for such child or children, shall be deemed guilty of a felony and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment in the ~~State Penitentiary~~ custody of the Department of Corrections for ~~any period of time~~ a term not less than one (1) year or more than ten (10) years.

SECTION 2. 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.

46-1-0199

NP