

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL 278

By: Smith of the Senate

and

Askins of the House

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to child custody; making certain violation of child custody order a felony and providing penalty; providing affirmative defense with certain conditions; authorizing law enforcement officer to take child into custody under certain circumstances; requiring certain child to be held in emergency or protective custody; 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 567A of Title 21, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Any parent or other person who violates an order of any court of this state granting the custody of a child under the age of eighteen (18) years to any person, agency, institution, or other facility, with the intent to deprive the lawful custodian of the custody of the child, shall be guilty of a felony. The fine for a violation of this subsection shall not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

B. The offender shall have an affirmative defense if the offender reasonably believes that the act was necessary to preserve the child from physical, mental, or emotional danger to the child's welfare and the offender notifies the local law enforcement agency nearest to the location where the custodian of the child resides.

C. If a child is removed from the custody of the child's lawful custodian pursuant to the provisions of this section any law enforcement officer may take the child into custody without a court order and, unless there is a specific court order directing a law enforcement officer to take the child into custody and release or return the child to a lawful custodian, the child shall be held in emergency or protective custody pursuant to the provisions of Section 7003-2.1 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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.

47-1-1609

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