ENGROSSED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 56

By: Smith of the Senate

and

Davis of the House

A Concurrent Resolution creating the Legislative Task Force on the Right to a Speedy Trial; limiting its duration; stating purpose; requiring report to certain officials and setting deadline; stating number and qualifications of members; providing for appointment; providing for meetings and stating quorum requirement; providing for appointment of chair and vice-chair; making meetings subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; prohibiting compensation of members; authorizing reimbursement for travel expenses and setting limits; requiring the Senate and House provide staff assistance; authorizing the Senate and House of Representatives to provide additional staff assistance; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, during the last interim, the Oklahoma State Senate reviewed the Oklahoma Statutes in relation to the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, during that study it became evident that outside expertise was required to perform a thorough review of the right to a speedy trial in the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, this topic is of utmost importance to ensure that the justice system in Oklahoma functions swiftly and properly to the benefit of all those involved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

SECTION 1. A. There is hereby created a Legislative Task Force on the Right to a Speedy Trial, which shall continue in existence until June 1, 2000, unless earlier terminated or extended. The Task Force shall conduct a comprehensive review of Oklahoma Statutes in relation to the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United

States. The Task Force shall submit its report in writing no later than February 1, 2000, to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B. The Task Force shall be composed of 13 persons to be appointed no later than July 15, 1999, as follows:

1. Two members of the Oklahoma State Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate,

2. Two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives,

3. Two laypersons, one each appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives,

4. Two attorneys specializing in the area of criminal defense, one each appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives,

5. Two district attorneys, one from a high-population district and one from a low-population district, appointed by the Oklahoma District Attorneys Council,

6. Two judges, one from a rural district and one from an urban district, appointed by the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, and

7. One judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

SECTION 2. A. The initial meeting of the Legislative Task Force on the Right to a Speedy Trial shall be called by the Chair of the Task Force.

B. The Chair of the Task Force shall be appointed from the membership by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

C. The Vice-Chair of the Task Force shall be appointed from the membership by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate.

D. After the initial meeting, the Task Force shall meet pursuant to the call of the Chair or, if the Chair should become vacant, at the call of the Vice-Chair.

E. A majority of the members of the Task Force present shall be necessary for any official action.

F. Meetings of the Task Force shall be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

SECTION 3. A. Members of the Legislative Task Force on the Right to a Speedy Trial shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, but may receive reimbursement for travel expenses in the discretion of each member's appointing authority. Members of the Task Force who are also members of the Legislature shall receive reimbursement pursuant to Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, except when the Legislature is in session. Members of the Task Force who are not members of the Legislature shall not receive reimbursement in an amount greater than provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

B. The Oklahoma State Senate and Oklahoma House of Representatives shall provide staff assistance to the Task Force.

SECTION 4. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Director of the Legislative Service Bureau, Oklahoma District Attorneys Council, the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Adopted by the Senate the 27th day of May, 1999.

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President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 1999.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives