

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

SENATE BILL 1388

By: Pruitt

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to juveniles; amending Section 116, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 268, O.S.L. 1998, Section 129, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 1, O.S.L. 1999, Section 131, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 268, O.S.L. 1998, and Section 132, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 1999 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Sections 7303-1.3, 7303-4.6, 7303-5.2 and 7303-5.3), which relate to juvenile justice; requiring utilization of faith-based treatment programs be considered and not discriminated against; defining term; providing for objection to participation in faith-based program; authorizing additional type of disposition order; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 116, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 268, O.S.L. 1998 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 7303-1.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7303-1.3 A. The court may provide by rule who shall make a preliminary inquiry to determine whether the interests of the public or of the child who is within the purview of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code require that further court action be taken. Provided, that where intake is to be provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice under contract with the Supreme Court, or under the provision of rules issued by the Supreme Court, the preliminary inquiry shall follow the uniform contractual procedures as agreed to by the Supreme Court and the Department. If it is determined by the preliminary inquiry that no further action be taken and if agreed to by the district attorney, said person or the court may make such

informal adjustment as is practicable without a petition. The court shall insure that probation counselors and all individuals involved in the recommendation and implementation of any services, agreements or informal adjustments pursuant to this section shall actively consider and proffer utilization of faith-based programs and shall not discriminate against such programs. For purposes of this section, a "faith-based program" shall include, but not be limited to, a program which incorporates as part of its provision of treatment, counseling, advising, informing and disseminating ecclesiastical, spiritual and religious content in the furtherance of providing treatment and attaining recovery for the juvenile.

B. A petition in a juvenile proceeding may be filed by the district attorney to determine if further action is necessary. The proceeding shall be entitled "In the matter of _____, an alleged (delinquent) or (a child alleged to be in need of supervision)".

The petition shall be verified and may be upon information and belief. It shall set forth:

1. With particularity facts which bring the child within the purview of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code;
2. The name, age and residence of the child;
3. The names and residences of the parents of the child;
4. The name and residence of the legal guardian of the child, if applicable;
5. The name and residence of the person or persons having custody or control of the child;
6. The name and residence of the nearest known relative, if no parent or guardian can be found;
7. The relief requested; and
8. The specific federal law, state law or municipal ordinance under which the child is charged, and an endorsement of witnesses

intended to be called by the petitioner, where the child is sought to be adjudged a delinquent child.

If a termination of parental rights is desired, it must be stated in the petition and summons, and if an order for the payment of funds for the care and maintenance of the child is desired, it must be stated in the petition and summons. If any of the facts herein required are not known by the petitioner, the petition shall so state, along with the reasons why said facts are not known to petitioner.

C. A petition alleging a child to be a child in need of treatment shall be filed by a district attorney pursuant to the Inpatient Mental Health Treatment of Children Act.

D. A copy of the petition shall be attached to and delivered with the summons.

E. A district attorney may defer filing a petition alleging a child to be delinquent or in need of supervision for a period of ninety (90) days if the child participates in a teen court program or a first-time offender program, as defined in Section 7303-4.6 of this title. If the child successfully completes the program, the district attorney shall not file the petition. The records of a case for which a petition is not filed shall be subject to the provisions of Article VII of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 129, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 1, O.S.L. 1999 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 7303-4.6), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7303-4.6 A. If the court finds that the allegations of a petition alleging a child to be delinquent or in need of supervision are supported by the evidence, the court shall sustain the petition, and shall make an order of adjudication setting forth whether the child is delinquent or in need of supervision and shall adjudge the child as a ward of the court.

B. A court may defer delinquency adjudication proceedings or

proceedings to determine if a child is in need of supervision for one hundred eighty (180) days if the child:

1. Is alleged to have committed or attempted to commit a delinquent offense that if committed by an adult would be a misdemeanor or that if committed by an adult would be grand larceny of property valued at One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or less;

2. Waives the privilege against self-incrimination and testifies, under oath, that the allegations are true;

3. Has not been previously adjudicated a delinquent; and

4. Presents to the court an oral or written request to attend a Teen Court program.

C. The Teen Court program must be approved by the court.

D. The court shall dismiss the case with prejudice at the conclusion of the deferral period if the child presents satisfactory evidence that the Teen Court program has been successfully completed.

E. The court may require a child who requests a Teen Court program to pay a fee, as determined by the court, not to exceed Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to cover the costs of administration. The fee shall be deposited in the court clerk's official depository account. Eighty percent (80%) of the costs so paid shall be distributed to the organization sponsoring the Teen Court to be used for Teen Court operating expenses. The remaining twenty percent (20%) of said cost shall be paid by the court clerk to the court fund.

F. A court may defer delinquency proceedings or proceedings to determine if a child is in need of supervision for one hundred eighty (180) days for any child that has not been previously adjudicated delinquent, if the child and, if required by the court, the parent or legal guardian of the child agree to participate in an alternative diversion program for first-time offenders that has been approved by the court. The court shall dismiss the case with

prejudice at the conclusion of the deferral period if the child presents satisfactory evidence that the alternative diversion program for first-time offenders has been successfully completed. The records of a case dismissed pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to the provisions of Article VII of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

G. A court may defer delinquency proceedings for one hundred eighty (180) days for any child that has not been previously adjudicated delinquent, if the child agrees to participate in a military mentor program that has been approved by the court. The court shall dismiss the case with prejudice at the conclusion of the deferral period if the child presents satisfactory evidence that the military mentor program has been successfully completed. The records of a case dismissed pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to the provisions of Article VII of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

H. As used in this section:

1. "Alternative diversion programs for first-time offenders" means programs for juveniles who have been identified by law enforcement personnel, the district attorney, or the court as having committed acts which are not serious enough to warrant adjudication through the juvenile court process, but which do indicate a need for intervention to prevent further development toward juvenile delinquency. The program shall be administered, pursuant to contact with the Department of Juvenile Justice, by organizations designated as youth services agencies in accordance with Section 7302-3.6 of this title. The court shall insure that probation counselors and all individuals involved in the recommendation and implementation of any programs pursuant to this section shall actively consider and proffer utilization of faith-based programs and shall not discriminate against such programs. Provided, any juvenile who objects to participation in a faith-based program shall not be

penalized for such objection. For purposes of this section, a "faith-based program" shall include, but not be limited to, a program which incorporates as part of its provision of treatment, counseling, advising, informing and disseminating ecclesiastical, spiritual and religious content in the furtherance of providing treatment and attaining recovery for the juvenile;

2. "Teen Court program" means a program which provides an alternative judicial forum for cases involving juvenile offenders, in which teenage participants, under the supervision of an adult coordinator, may serve in various capacities within the courtroom, including jurors, lawyers, bailiffs and judges. Such program also may include participation by volunteer adult attorneys. The Teen Court hears cases involving juvenile offenders who are referred to the Teen Court by the district attorney or the district court and assesses sentences such as participation in community work projects, counseling or rehabilitation programs; and

3. "Military mentor program" means a program administered by the Oklahoma Military Department as provided in Section 7303-5.3 of this title.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 131, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 268, O.S.L. 1998 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 7303-5.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7303-5.2 A. An individual treatment and service plan shall be filed with the court within the thirty (30) days after any child has been adjudicated to be delinquent or in need of supervision. Said plan shall be filed by the person, department or agency responsible for the supervision of the case or by the legal custodian if the child has been removed from the custody of its lawful parent or parents. The treatment and service plan shall be based on a comprehensive assessment and evaluation of the child and family and include but not be limited to:

1. A history of the child and family, including identification of the problems leading to the adjudication;

2. Identification of the specific services available to the child to remediate or alleviate the conditions that led to the adjudication, including but not limited to educational, vocational-educational, medical, drug or alcohol abuse treatment or counseling or other treatment services;

3. Identification of the services to be provided to the parent, legal guardian, legal custodian, stepparent, other adult person living in the home or other family members, to remediate or alleviate the conditions that led to the adjudication, including services needed to assist the family to provide proper care and supervision of the child;

4. Performance criteria that will measure the progress of the child and family toward completion of the treatment and service plan;

5. A projected date for the completion of the treatment and service plan; and

6. The name and business address of the attorney representing the child, if any.

B. The individual treatment and service plan shall be amended as necessary and appropriate to reflect the disposition of the court. The amended plan shall be filed with the court within thirty (30) days of the order of disposition removing the child from the home and shall state:

1. The reasons for such placement and a statement as to the unavailability or inappropriateness of local placement, or other good cause, for any placement more than forty (40) miles from the home of the child;

2. The services to be provided to the child while in such placement and the projected date of discharge;

3. The services necessary to assist the child to reintegrate with the family of the child or other community-based placement; and

4. If the child is age sixteen (16) or older, the services necessary to make the transition from community placement to independent living.

C. Whenever a child who is subject to the provisions of this section is committed for inpatient mental health treatment pursuant to the Inpatient Mental Health Treatment of Children Act, the individual treatment and service plan shall be amended as necessary and appropriate, including but not limited to identification of the treatment and services to be provided to the child and his family upon discharge of the child from inpatient mental health treatment.

D. The court shall insure that probation counselors and all individuals involved in the recommendation and implementation of any services pursuant to this section shall actively consider and proffer the utilization of faith-based programs and shall not discriminate against such programs. Provided, any juvenile who objects to participation in a faith-based program shall not be penalized for such objection. For purposes of this section, a "faith-based program" shall include, but not be limited to, a program which incorporates as part of its provision of treatment, counseling, advising, informing and disseminating ecclesiastical, spiritual and religious content in the furtherance of providing treatment and attaining recovery for the juvenile.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY Section 132, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 1999 (10 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 7303-5.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7303-5.3 A. The following kinds of orders of disposition may be made in respect to children adjudicated in need of supervision or delinquent:

1. The court may place the child on probation or under supervision in the home of the child, or in the custody of a

suitable person, upon such conditions as the court shall determine. The court may require the parent or other person to give security by bond, with surety or sureties approved by the court, for compliance with such order. If the child is placed on probation, the court may impose a probation supervision fee of not more than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per month, if the court finds that the child or parent or legal guardian of the child has the ability to pay the fee. In counties having a juvenile bureau, the fee shall be paid to the juvenile bureau; in all other counties, the fee shall be paid to the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

2. If it is consistent with the welfare of the child, the child shall be placed with the parent or legal guardian of the child, but if it appears to the court that the conduct of such parent, guardian, legal guardian, stepparent or other adult person living in the home has contributed to the child becoming delinquent or in need of supervision, the court may issue a written order specifying conduct to be followed by such parent, guardian, legal custodian, stepparent or other adult person living in the home with respect to such child. The conduct specified shall be such as would reasonably prevent the child from continuing to be delinquent or in need of supervision. Such order shall remain in effect for a period of not more than one (1) year to be specified by the court, and the order may be extended or renewed by the court.

a. If it is consistent with the welfare of the child, in cases where the child has been adjudicated to be in need of supervision due to repeated absence from school, the court may order counseling and treatment for the child and the parents of the child to be provided by the local school district, the county, the Department or a private individual or entity. Prior to final disposition, the court shall require that it be shown by the appropriate school district that a

child found to be truant has been evaluated for learning disabilities, hearing and visual impairments and other impediments which could constitute an educational handicap or has been evaluated to determine whether the child has a disability if it is suspected that the child may require special education services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The results of such tests shall be made available to the court for use by the court in determining the disposition of the case.

- b. In issuing orders to a parent, guardian, legal guardian, stepparent or other adult person living in the home of a child adjudicated to be a delinquent child or in making other disposition of said delinquent child, the court may consider the testimony of said parent, guardian, legal guardian, stepparent or other adult person concerning the behavior of the juvenile and the ability of such person to exercise parental control over the behavior of the juvenile.
- c. In any dispositional order involving a child age sixteen (16) or older, the court shall make a determination, where appropriate, of the services needed to assist the child to make the transition to independent living.

No child who has been adjudicated in need of supervision only upon the basis of truancy or noncompliance with the mandatory school attendance law shall be placed in a public or private institutional facility or be removed from the custody of the lawful parent, guardian or custodian of the child.

3. The court may commit the child to the custody of a private institution or agency, including any institution established and

operated by the county, authorized to care for children or to place them in family homes. In committing a child to a private institution or agency, the court shall select one that is licensed by any state department supervising or licensing private institutions and agencies; or, if such institution or agency is in another state, by the analogous department of that state. Whenever the court shall commit a child to any institution or agency, it shall transmit with the order of commitment a summary of its information concerning the child, and such institution or agency shall give to the court such information concerning the child as the court may at any time require.

4. The court may order the child to receive counseling or other community-based services as necessary.

5. The court may order the child to participate in a military mentor program administered by the Oklahoma Military Department, if such program:

- a. is staffed by National Guard or qualified civilian personnel who are trained by the Oklahoma Military Department pursuant to training standards established by the Department of Juvenile Justice and meets screening requirements established by the Department of Juvenile Justice,
- b. provides for adequate supervision of the child, and
- c. is designed to develop useful skills and abilities of the child and/or integrate the child into community service activities or public works projects.

The Office of Juvenile Affairs through its Department of Juvenile Justice and the Oklahoma Military Department are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement to provide for the effective development and implementation of this paragraph.

6. The court may commit the child to the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs under the supervision of the Department of

Juvenile Justice. Any order adjudicating the child to be delinquent and committing the child to the Department of Juvenile Justice shall be for an indeterminate period of time. If the adjudication is for distribution of a controlled dangerous substance or possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance, the court may require that the offender be placed in a residential facility operated or contracted for by the Office of Juvenile Affairs. Said placement must occur within sixty (60) days of disposition unless extended by the court for an additional sixty (60) days.

7. If the child has been placed outside the home, and it appears to the court that the parent, guardian, legal custodian, or stepparent, or other adult person living in the home has contributed to the child becoming delinquent or in need of supervision, the court may order that the parent, guardian, legal custodian, stepparent, or other adult living in the home be made subject to any treatment or placement plan prescribed by the Department or other person or agency receiving custody of the child.

8. If the adjudication is for distribution of a controlled dangerous substance or possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance, the court may require the juvenile to participate in a substance abuse program, which may be a faith-based substance abuse program. If the juvenile objects to participation in a faith-based program the court must allow the juvenile to participate in another type of substance abuse program. The Court shall insure that probation counselors and all individuals involved in the recommendation and implementation of any disposition orders pursuant to this section shall actively consider and proffer utilization of faith-based programs and shall not discriminate against such programs. For purposes of this section, a "faith-based substance abuse program" shall include, but not be limited to, a substance abuse program which incorporates as part of its provision of treatment, counseling, advising, informing and disseminating

ecclesiastical, spiritual and religious content in the furtherance of attaining recovery for the substance abuser.

9. With respect to a child adjudicated a delinquent child, the court may:

- a. for acts involving criminally injurious conduct as defined in Section 142.3 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, order the child to pay a victim compensation assessment in an amount not to exceed that amount specified in Section 142.18 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The court shall forward a copy of the adjudication order to the Crime Victims Compensation Board for purposes of Section 142.11 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Except as otherwise provided by law, such adjudication order shall be kept confidential by the Board,
- b. order the child to engage in a term of community service without compensation. The state or any political subdivision shall not be liable if a loss or claim results from any acts or omission of a child ordered to engage in a term of community service pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph,
- c. if it is consistent with the welfare of the child, require community service or restitution or both community service and restitution for acts of delinquency. The immunities provided by Sections 227 and 228 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall apply to community services directed pursuant to this section. The court may order the parents or custodial parent of any child living with the parents or custodial parent to supervise the performance of community service by the child. The court may order the parents or custodial parent of any child living

with the parents or custodial parent at the time of the criminal or delinquent act of the child to remit the amount of restitution ordered by the court. The court may consider any hardship of such order on the parents or custodial parent of the child. The parents or custodial parent may be represented by an attorney in the matter of the order for remittance of the restitution by the parents or custodial parent.

Provided however, if the court orders the parents or custodial parent to remit the amount of restitution as provided for in this paragraph, in addition to any other dispositional orders of the court, the court shall order the child to perform community service for the number of hours commensurate with the number of hours it would require under federal or state minimum wage to earn the amount paid by such child's parents or custodial parent under the order to remit restitution,

- d. order the child to pay the fine which would have been imposed had such child been convicted of such crime as an adult. Any such fine collected pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited in a special Work Restitution Fund to be established by the court to allow children otherwise unable to pay restitution to work in community service projects in the private or public sector to earn money to compensate their victims,
- e. order the cancellation or denial of driving privileges as provided by Sections 6-107.1 and 6-107.2 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- f. in accordance with the guidelines approved and adopted by the Oklahoma Supreme Court for the implementation

of the Serious and Habitual Juvenile Offender Program, make the following orders: sanction detention in the residence of the child or facility designated by the Department of Juvenile Justice or the juvenile bureau for such purpose for up to five (5) days; weekend detention in a place other than a juvenile detention facility or shelter; tracking; or house arrest with electronic monitoring. On and after the adoption of guidelines by the Oklahoma Supreme Court for the implementation of the Serious and Habitual Juvenile Offender Program, the provisions of subparagraphs a through e of this paragraph shall be subject to said guidelines,

- g. in accordance with the guidelines approved and adopted by the Oklahoma Supreme Court for the implementation of the Serious and Habitual Juvenile Offender Program, impose sanctions for the violation of preadjudicatory or postadjudicatory violations of probation.

~~9.~~ 10. The court may dismiss the petition or otherwise terminate its jurisdiction at any time for good cause shown.

~~10.~~ 11. In any dispositional order removing a child from the home of the child, the court shall make a determination that, in accordance with the best interests of the child and the protection of the public, reasonable efforts have been made to provide for the return of the child to the child's own home, or that efforts to reunite the family are not feasible, and reasonable efforts are being made to secure an alternate permanent placement for the child.

B. Prior to adjudication or as directed by a law enforcement subpoena or court order, a school district may disclose educational records to the court or juvenile justice system for purposes of determining the ability of the juvenile justice system to effectively serve a child. Any disclosure of educational records

shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

C. With respect to a child adjudicated a delinquent child for a violent offense, within thirty (30) days of the date of the adjudication either the juvenile bureau in counties which have a juvenile bureau or the Office of Juvenile Affairs in all other counties shall notify the superintendent of the school district in which the child is enrolled or intends to enroll of the delinquency adjudication and the offense for which the child was adjudicated.

D. No child who has been adjudicated in need of supervision may be placed in a state training school.

E. No child charged in a state or municipal court with a violation of state or municipal traffic laws or ordinances, or convicted therefor, may be incarcerated in jail for any said violation unless the charge for which the arrest was made would constitute a felony if the child were an adult. Nothing contained in this subsection shall prohibit the detention of a juvenile for traffic-related offenses prior to the filing of a petition in the district court alleging delinquency as a result of said acts and nothing contained in this section shall prohibit detaining a juvenile pursuant to Section 7303-1.2 of this title.

F. The court may revoke or modify a disposition order and may order redispotion. The child whose disposition is being considered for revocation or modification at said hearing shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to present evidence in the child's behalf and to be confronted by witnesses against the child. Any revocation, modification or redispotion of the court in whole or in part shall be subject to review on appeal, as in other appeals of criminal cases. Bail may be allowed pending appeal.

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.

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