

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION 41

By: Long

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution creating the Office of Juvenile Affairs Staffing Ratio/Case Load Study Task Force; providing for membership; providing filling of vacant positions; establishing quorum; authorizing reimbursement for travel expenses; providing staffing; specifying duties; requiring report and date for report; providing for appointment of chair of task force; providing date of first meeting; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, among other things, provides services to promote public safety and reduce juvenile delinquency; and

WHEREAS, there is an understaffing crisis in the Office of Juvenile Affairs which is making it increasingly difficult to meet its mission to protect communities and rehabilitate at-risk juveniles; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Juvenile Affairs has experienced an alarming rate of turnover at a time when injuries to staff and juveniles continue to increase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. A. There is hereby created the Office of Juvenile Affairs Staffing Ratio/Case Load Study Task Force.

B. The task force shall consist of twelve (12) members to be appointed as follows:

1. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint three members of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

Representatives shall appoint three members of the House of Representatives; and

2. The Office of Juvenile Affairs shall appoint six members as follows:

- a. three Juvenile Specialists of the Office of Juvenile Affairs, at least one of which shall be a member of the Communications Workers of America, Local 6086, and
- b. three Juvenile Justice Specialists of the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

C. 1. The six members appointed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall serve at the pleasure of the Office of Juvenile Affairs. Any vacancy for these appointed members shall be filled by the Office of Juvenile Affairs;

2. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum;

3. Members shall not be compensated for their service but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, as follows:

- a. legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and
- b. members appointed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall be reimbursed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

D. The Senate, House of Representatives, and the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall provide such staff support as required by the task force.

E. The task force shall review the worker-to-caseload ratio for staff of the Office of Juvenile Affairs, reasons for high turnover

among staff, and other staffing related issues. The task force shall make a determination as to what constitutes a manageable caseload and what constitutes an acceptable staff-to-juvenile ratio. On or before December 1, 2000, the task force shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor.

F. The task force shall select a chair at the first meeting. The first meeting of the task force shall take place no later than August 31, 2000.

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 resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

47-2-2444

SJ

6/12/2015 1:59:47 AM