

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2410

By: Coleman

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to public health and safety; amending 63 O.S. 2001, Section 1-110.1, which relates to Children First programs; requiring outcome-based performance evaluation; requiring report; providing for contents of evaluation; requiring certain agencies having child abuse prevention responsibilities to develop and utilize an interagency information system; providing for contents; defining term; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2001, Section 1-110.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-110.1 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the State Department of Health to be designated the "Children First Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies deposited to the credit of the fund by law. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State Department of Health for operation of Children First family resource programs. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

B. The State Department of Health shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Governor by January 15 of each year, an annual

report, including a full accounting of administrative expenditures from the fund for the prior fiscal year, and a summary detailing the demographic characteristics of families served including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Age and marital status of parent(s);
2. Household composition of families served;
3. Number of families accepted into the program, by location, and average length of time enrolled;
4. Referrals made on behalf of families not accepted into the program; and
5. Average actual expenditures per child during the most recent state fiscal year.

C. ~~Projects~~ The Program shall comply with the uniform components of the State Plan for the Prevention of Child Abuse. The State Department of Health shall contract with ~~a~~ an Oklahoma university-related program for a performance-based an outcome-based performance evaluation ~~of programs~~. The evaluation shall be completed by November 1, 2002, and a report submitted to the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate on or before January 1, 2003. The evaluation report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Analyses of the nature and effectiveness of intraagency and interagency services, activities and coordination related to the Children First Program; and
2. Analyses of the:
  - a. nature and effectiveness of the development, revisions, and use of the design effectiveness for Oklahoma programs,
  - b. effectiveness of the delivery system for Oklahoma participants,
  - c. participant outcomes,

- d. cost-effectiveness of the program and estimates of future savings,
- e. assessments of the use of state resources,
- f. administrative and governance structures,
- g. policies and procedures,
- h. staff qualifications,
- i. programmatic and evaluation methodologies, and
- j. quality and effectiveness of the programs delivery to high-risk children and their families. The evaluation shall assess whether there has been a decrease in state, federal or locally provided services including, but not limited to, child welfare services, temporary assistance to needy families, services for domestic abuse and substance abuse services.

D. Program sites shall fully cooperate and comply with the evaluation process and sites shall provide weekly caseload and referral information to the State Department of Health.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-227.10 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

For the purpose of information sharing and management of child abuse prevention services in Oklahoma including, but not limited to, the Children First Program, the Department of Human Services, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and the Commission on Children and Youth shall develop and utilize an interagency information system which shall:

1. Be based upon the integration, utilization and modification, as necessary, of existing agency information systems related to state-provided services to clients received, including but not limited to, child welfare services, temporary assistance to needy

families, child abuse prevention services, and mental health services;

2. Provide for the accuracy of the information and for the security of and limited access to the information;

3. Include case specific information, including client outcomes, and have the ability to monitor; and

4. Be capable of providing management reports and information to the various components of the child abuse prevention systems, and of providing aggregate information necessary for planning, monitoring, evaluating and managing programs and services provided to clients receiving child abuse prevention services including, but not limited to, the Children First Program.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-227.11 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

For purposes of determining whether a child or his or her family is at high-risk, at least:

1. One of the following criteria must be considered:

- a. the child has a serious physical, mental or emotional condition,
  - b. parental drug and/or alcohol abuse,
  - c. parental mental illness,
  - d. domestic abuse,
  - e. the child whose life experiences include physical, sexual or psychological abuse or neglect, or
  - f. any combination of these conditions or any other conditions determined by the State Board of Health which would identify children who are in circumstances where there is a strong probability of maltreatment;
- or

2. Two of the following criteria must be considered:

- a. poverty,

- b. race and ethnicity,
- c. single-parent households,
- d. English proficiency, and
- e. parental education.

SECTION 4. 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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