

An Act relating to the Department of Rehabilitation Services; amending 10 O.S. 1991, Section 1419, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 269, O.S.L. 1995 (10 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1419), which relates to the Oklahoma School for the Blind and the Oklahoma School for the Deaf; modifying employment authority of the Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services; defining certain professionals and other staffing; providing for powers and duties of the Director; providing for duties and compensation of employees; making certain personnel eligible for membership in the Teachers' Retirement System; providing for adoption of personnel policies; authorizing certain disciplinary action; making such action not subject to the Administrative Procedures Act; providing for notification regarding certain contracts; removing out-of-date language; providing for trials de novo and for appeals for dismissal or nonrenewal of certain contracts; providing procedures; providing exceptions; providing for petitions, hearings and other proceedings; providing for application of certain principals; providing for written findings; requiring certain judgments; authorizing extensions; making certain decision binding; specifying exceptions; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Section 840-9, as renumbered by Section 54, Chapter 242, O.S.L. 1994, and as amended by Section 3, Chapter 269, O.S.L. 1995 (74 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 840-5.3), which relates to persons not considered to be state employees; adding to list; amending Section 14, Chapter 242, O.S.L. 1994, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 388, O.S.L. 1998 (74 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 840-5.12), which relates to the State Merit System; removing certain limits for certain personnel; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.