

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 723

By: Wilkerson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to corrections; amending 57 O.S. 1991, Section 515, which relates to probation-parole officers; authorizing the Department of Corrections to award the identification badge and firearm to certain retiring employees; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 1991, Section 515, is amended to read as follows:

Section 515. A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, all probation-parole officers employed by the Director of the Department of Corrections pursuant to Section 510 of this title shall be deemed peace officers and shall possess the powers granted by law to peace officers. Probation-parole officers shall meet all of the training and qualifications for peace officers required by Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Qualifications for probation-parole officers shall be good character and, except for those probation-parole officers employed prior to May 4, 1974, a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university including at least twenty-four (24) credit hours in any combination of psychology, sociology, social work, criminology, education, criminal justice administration, penology or police science. Provided, that any employee of the Department, formerly classified and who worked as a probation-parole officer for at least one (1) year, who was later promoted to an administrative or supervisory position within the Department and who has been employed continuously by the

Department may be reappointed to the position of probation-parole officer without having to meet the currently established qualifications in this act.

B. Persons employed as probation-parole officers on or before July 1, 1988, shall not be qualified and certified as peace officers until completion of the requirements of Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Said officers shall complete the requirements prior to January 1, 1990.

C. For persons serving as probation-parole officers on or after July 1, 2001, the Department of Corrections shall have the authority to award the officer's identification badge and firearm to an employee of the Department who retires from state employment as a probation-parole officer.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

SECTION 3. 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.

48-1-639

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