

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL 1568

By: Monson

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to public health and safety; creating the Joint Legislative Task Force on Psychotropic Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists; stating purpose; specifying examples of legislative or regulatory efforts; providing for task force composition, officers, staffing and reporting; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. In order to improve access to affordable, high quality mental health services, there is hereby created the Joint Legislative Task Force on Psychotropic Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists, the purpose of which shall be to study issues related to access to psychotropic and other drugs used in the treatment of mental illness through the granting of prescriptive authority for such medications to psychologists. Issues to be studied shall include, but not be limited to:

1. The level of education, training and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders necessary to prescribe psychotropic medications;

2. Cost savings that may accrue pursuant to granting of psychotropic prescriptive authority to psychologists;

3. Possible improvements in the quality of care and access to comprehensive behavioral health services for the mentally ill; and

4. Any other issues related to psychotropic and other drugs used to treat mental illness deemed necessary by the task force.

B. 1. The task force shall be composed of the chairs and vice chairs of the Senate Human Resources and Business and Labor Committees and the chairs and vice chairs of the Oklahoma House of Representatives Human Services and Public Health Committees; and two additional members from both houses, designated by each the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, appointed as of the effective date of this act.

2. The task force shall solicit input from psychologists, psychiatrists, medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, consumers, payors, persons with expertise in pharmacology, the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, the Oklahoma State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, the Oklahoma Psychological Association, the Oklahoma State Medical Association, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, the Oklahoma Nurses Association, the Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association, the Oklahoma Psycho-Pharmaceutical Instructors Association, and others.

C. The chair of the Senate Human Resources Committee shall convene the first meeting of the task force on or before September 1, 2004, and shall serve as cochair. The chair of the House Human Services Committee shall also serve as cochair.

D. Staffing for the task force shall be provided by the staffs of the State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

E. The task force shall issue a report of its findings to the Legislature on or before December 31, 2004.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

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.

49-2-2954

CJ

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