

**EHB 1779**

**THE STATE SENATE**  
**Tuesday, April 1, 2003**

**ENGROSSED**

**House Bill No. 1779**

**As Amended**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1779 - By: SMALIGO of the House and  
WILCOXSON of the Senate.

[ aging services - Department on Aging - members - report -  
codification - emergency ]

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3500 of Title 56, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Joint Legislative Study  
Committee on the Creation of a Department on Aging.

B. The purpose of the Committee shall be to study, investigate,  
examine and analyze issues relating to the creation of a Department  
on Aging. Specifically the Committee shall:

- 1. a. identify existing agencies having jurisdictional  
authority over services to the aging,
- b. examine the responsibilities of the identified  
agencies having jurisdiction over programs related to  
services for the aging,
- c. identify duplication of services and inefficient  
operations,

- 1           d.    identify the needs for services of Oklahoma's aging  
2                    population,  
3           e.    examine how other states have addressed providing  
4                    integrated services to a growing elderly population,  
5                    and  
6           f.    determine whether a department on aging would better  
7                    serve the needs of Oklahoma's aging population, as  
8                    well as be a more efficient use of Oklahoma's limited  
9                    resources;

10           2.   Study and make recommendations concerning any other area or  
11           issue related to the creation of a Department on Aging and such  
12           other areas concerning the elderly as deemed necessary by the  
13           Committee; and

14           3.   Submit a written report to the Governor and the Legislature  
15           regarding findings and any recommendations of the Committee by  
16           January 15, 2004, pursuant to subsection F of this section.

17           C.   The Committee shall be composed of nineteen (19) legislative  
18           members as follows: seven members of the Oklahoma House of  
19           Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
20           Representatives, seven members of the Oklahoma Senate shall be  
21           appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and five  
22           legislative members appointed by the Governor.

1           D. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
2 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a  
3 legislative member to serve as cochair of the Committee. The  
4 cochairs of the Committee shall convene a meeting of the Committee  
5 within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the appointments.  
6 The membership of the Committee shall determine a meeting schedule  
7 by majority approval of the Committee. A majority of the members  
8 present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum. All meetings of the  
9 Committee shall be open to the public and shall be held in  
10 accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

11           E. The Committee shall be staffed by the staff of the Oklahoma  
12 House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate and by any  
13 other state agency staff as deemed necessary by the Committee.

14           F. The work of the Committee shall be finalized no later than  
15 January 15, 2004. Any written recommendations of the Committee  
16 shall be made available to the public and delivered to each member  
17 of the Oklahoma Legislature by February 15, 2004.

18           G. The cochairs of the Committee may appoint subcommittees as  
19 deemed necessary from the members of the Committee for the purpose  
20 of carrying out its duties pursuant to the provisions of this  
21 section.

22           SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
23 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.  
3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 3-26-03 - DO  
4 PASS, As Amended.