

CS for SB 675

THE STATE SENATE  
Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Committee Substitute for  
Senate Bill No. 675

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 675 - By: LEFTWICH of the Senate and BRADDOCK of the House.

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Section 10.3, which relates to the cabinet system; permitting creation of cabinet system; permitting the cabinet system to be an organizational framework; deleting requirement for minimum cabinet positions; providing that cabinet Secretaries be agents of the Governor; providing certain authority; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Section 500.20, which relates to travel reimbursement; providing for reimbursement for the Governor's personal assistant; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 10.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 10.3 A. Within forty-five (45) days of assuming office, each Governor ~~shall~~ may create a cabinet system for the executive branch of state government. Said cabinet system ~~shall~~ may be an organizational framework created by executive order which includes all executive agencies, boards, commissions, or institutions and their assignments to specific cabinet areas. The cabinet system shall consist of no ~~fewer than ten or~~ more than fifteen cabinet areas and each cabinet area shall consist of executive agencies, boards, commissions, or institutions with

1 similar programmatic or administrative objectives; provided, one  
2 cabinet area shall consist of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans  
3 Affairs, its institutions and other executive agencies, boards,  
4 commissions and institutions which are related to veterans. The  
5 Governor's cabinet shall be in effect until the Legislature  
6 supersedes each cabinet area by providing by law for specific  
7 cabinet areas or departments, or removes by law the authority of the  
8 Governor to create a cabinet area.

9       B. The Governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of  
10 the Senate, a Secretary to head each cabinet area. The Secretary  
11 appointee for the cabinet area consisting of the Oklahoma Department  
12 of Veterans Affairs and other related veterans entities shall be an  
13 honorably discharged veteran as defined by Title 72 of the Oklahoma  
14 Statutes. A cabinet Secretary may be appointed as a position funded  
15 by the Office of the Governor from funds available to that office,  
16 or appointed as a cabinet Secretary from among the agency heads  
17 within the cabinet area. The cabinet Secretaries shall:

18       1. Advise the Governor of any policy changes or problems  
19 within the area they represent;

20       2. Advise the entities represented of any policy changes or  
21 problems as directed by the Governor; ~~and~~

22       3. Coordinate information gathering for the Legislature as  
23 requested; and

1           4. Be the agent of the Governor over the area they represent  
2 with the authority derived by being the agent of the Governor.

3           C. The cabinet Secretaries shall serve at the pleasure of the  
4 Governor, however, the appointment or removal of a cabinet Secretary  
5 who is also an agency head shall not otherwise affect the status of  
6 the other duties of the agency head. Whenever a Secretary position  
7 becomes vacant, the Governor shall appoint a successor within thirty  
8 (30) calendar days pursuant to the provisions of subsection B of  
9 this section. If the Legislature is not in session at the time of  
10 appointment it shall be subject to the advice and consent of the  
11 Senate upon convening of the next regular session of the  
12 Legislature.

13           SECTION 2.           AMENDATORY           74 O.S. 2001, Section 500.20, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15           Section 500.20 The Governor of the State of Oklahoma is hereby  
16 authorized reimbursement for all actual and necessary travel  
17 expenses incurred when on official business of the state. Such  
18 actual and necessary expenses shall include the subsistence and  
19 transportation expenses of the Governor's spouse when accompanying  
20 the Governor on official business of the state, or when attending an  
21 official function at the request of the Governor. The provisions of  
22 this section shall also apply to the Lieutenant Governor ~~and~~, the  
23 Lieutenant Governor's spouse, and the Governor's personal assistant.

1           SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-19-03 - DO  
6 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.