

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1475

By: Askins

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; establishing the Oklahoma Crime Victims' Justice Task Force; providing for membership; providing for appointment of chair and vice-chair; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for administrative support; providing for duties; requiring certain report to Governor and Legislature; providing for noncodification; 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. There is hereby created until February 1, 2007, the "Oklahoma Crime Victims' Justice Task Force".

B. The Oklahoma Crime Victims' Justice Task Force shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. The Governor, or a designee;
2. The Attorney General, or a designee;
3. The Executive Coordinator of the District Attorneys Council, or a designee;
4. The Director of the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police, or a designee;
5. The Director of the Oklahoma Sheriffs' Association, or a designee;
6. The Director of the Department of Corrections, or a designee;

7. The Presiding Judge of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, or a designee;

8. A district judge appointed by the President of the State Judicial Conference;

9. The Deputy Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice, or a designee;

10. A victim witness coordinator appointed by the District Attorneys Council;

11. The president of the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, or a designee;

12. One crime victim currently residing within a county having a population of more than two hundred thousand (200,000) inhabitants, as determined by the latest Federal Decennial Census, appointed by the Victim Services Division of the Oklahoma District Attorneys Council; and

13. One crime victim currently residing within a county having a population of less than fifty thousand (50,000) inhabitants, as determined by the latest Federal Decennial Census, appointed by the Victim Services Division of the District Attorneys Council.

C. The chair shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives on or before July 1, 2005. The vice-chair shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate. The chair shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force on or before September 1, 2005. The members of the Task Force shall elect any other officers during the first meeting and upon a vacancy in any office. The Task Force shall meet as often as necessary. Task Force members employed by the state shall be reimbursed for travel expenses related to their service on the Task Force by their respective agencies pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act. Remaining Task Force members shall be reimbursed travel expenses related to their service on the Task Force by their

appointing authorities pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

D. Administrative support for the Task Force, including, but not limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force, shall be provided by the District Attorneys Council to be supplemented, if necessary, by the staff of the Oklahoma Attorney General. All participating state agencies shall provide for any administrative support requested by the Task Force.

E. The Task Force shall study and make recommendations on how to achieve uniformity of victim services throughout the state by examining current policies, procedures, and laws for crime victims in the State of Oklahoma. The Task Force shall also study and make recommendations regarding the effective promotion of public and governmental awareness of the needs, rights and role of crime victims within the criminal justice system.

F. The Task Force shall make a report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the appropriate committee of the State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives by February 1, 2007. The report shall be prepared by the administrative staff of the affected agencies.

SECTION 2. 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.

50-1-6977            SCE            03/02/05