ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 1800

By: Nichols of the Senate

and

Morgan (Fred) of the House

[child abuse - Child Abuse Response - availability - coordination – codification - effective date]

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 150.38 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is herby established within the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation the Child Abuse Response Team (CART) for purpose of investigating cases of physical or sexual assault upon a child or children, abuse or neglect at the request of any multidisciplinary child abuse team established pursuant to Section 7110 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any district attorney, the Department of Human Services, the Commission of Children and Youth, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, or any law enforcement agency. The team shall consist of such persons as the Bureau deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, persons experienced in emergency child abuse or neglect response, forensic evidence, criminal investigations, medical or psychological treatment, and medical or psychological evidence and symptoms of assault, abuse or neglect, and law enforcement. The Bureau shall ensure there is a trained qualified team available to each county within this state to respond to criminal acts of child abuse or neglect and to investigate physical or sexual assault, abuse or neglect of a child. The Bureau shall promulgate rules, procedures and forms necessary to establish and

implement the Child Abuse Response Team. The Bureau shall coordinate the implementation of the Child Abuse Response Team with the training efforts of the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council, the Department of Human Services, and the multidisciplinary child abuse teams operating to assist the district attorney offices of this state. Nothing shall require the Bureau to provide first response teams for acts of child abuse or neglect. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to conflict with any existing provision of law, or to modify any agency's responsibility to investigate the crime of child abuse or neglect or respond to any situation or report of child abuse or neglect as required by law. The Legislature shall appropriate funds and provide sufficient full-time-equivalent personnel to the Bureau to carry out the training and purposes for the Child Abuse Response Team.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

Passed the Senate the 2nd day of March, 2006.

_____
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2006.

_____
Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives