

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR ENGROSSED  
5 SENATE BILL NO. 1959

By: Johnson (Constance) of the  
Senate

6 and

7 Kern of the House

8  
9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 ( Corrections - task force - noncodification -  
11 effective date -

12 emergency )  
13  
14  
15

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

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

19 A. There is hereby created until November 30, 2010, a task  
20 force to study the roles and responsibilities of the Department of  
21 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the State Department of  
22 Rehabilitation Services, and the Department of Corrections on behalf  
23 of women who are mentally ill and have been incarcerated with regard  
24 to:

- 1 1. Treatment;
- 2 2. Rehabilitative services;
- 3 3. Support services during the reentry process for women who
- 4 are mentally ill and have been incarcerated;
- 5 4. Employment;
- 6 5. Education; and
- 7 6. Other services that ensure successful reintegration into
- 8 society and that reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

9 B. 1. In addition, the task force shall study the pre- and  
10 post-incarceration quality of life for such women including, but not  
11 limited to, the ability to:

- 12 a. access child care,
- 13 b. meet family responsibilities,
- 14 c. obtain and maintain employment,
- 15 d. meet financial responsibilities,
- 16 e. obtain and maintain treatment or medicines, and
- 17 f. become incarcerated or recidivate based on inability
- 18 to access such interventions.

19 2. The task force shall also review agency policies and  
20 procedures related to:

- 21 a. methods for gaining trust and truth, and understanding
- 22 the unique relationship needs of women who are
- 23 mentally ill and have been incarcerated,
- 24

- 1           b.    understanding historical motivators that lead to  
2                    incarceration of women who are mentally ill including,  
3                    but not limited to, domestic abuse, childhood abuse,  
4                    sexual molestation, sexual abuse, and dysfunctional  
5                    family systems,  
6           c.    integrity of support systems,  
7           d.    individualized assessments,  
8           e.    discharge procedures, and  
9           f.    educating work sites about the special needs of women  
10                   who are mentally ill and have been incarcerated.

11           C.    In pursuing the goals for such women, the organization and  
12   procedures of the task force shall focus on:

- 13           1.    Increased efficiency, including review and incorporation of  
14   the findings of existing female offender initiatives;  
15           2.    Measurable results;  
16           3.    Reduced costs;  
17           4.    Effective evaluations; and  
18           5.    Improved utilization of state resources.

19           D.    The participating agencies shall provide staff assistance in  
20   administering the responsibilities of the task force.   The  
21   Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the  
22   Department of Corrections shall serve as co-lead agencies in  
23   implementing and conducting the task force study.   The Senate and  
24

1 House staffs shall also provide staff assistance for meetings,  
2 logistics, and reports.

3 E. The task force shall be composed of nineteen (19) members as  
4 follows:

5 1. The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and  
6 Substance Abuse Services, or designee;

7 2. The Director of the Department of Corrections, or designee;

8 3. The Director of the Department of Rehabilitation Services,  
9 or designee;

10 4. The Director of the Department of Human Services, or the  
11 Director of Child Welfare as designee;

12 5. The Administrator of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, or  
13 designee;

14 6. The Director of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and  
15 Youth, or designee;

16 7. The Director of the District Attorneys Council, or designee;

17 8. Four members of the Legislature who shall be appointed as  
18 follows:

19 a. two members representing the Senate, one member  
20 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
21 and one member appointed by the Co-President Pro  
22 Tempore of the Senate, and

23

24

1           b.   two members representing the two parties of the House  
2                   of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of  
3                   the House of Representatives;

4           9.   Two members to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of  
5 the Senate from a list of names compiled by the Department of  
6 Corrections of women who volunteer to be considered for the task  
7 force and who have a mental illness and have been incarcerated;

8           10. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
9 Representatives. One member shall be a representative of Workforce  
10 Oklahoma, and one member shall be a mental health service provider  
11 with doctorate level professional experience in the areas of child  
12 sexual molestation and abuse and other sexually explicit activities;  
13 and

14          11. Four members to be appointed by the Governor as follows:

15           a.   two members who each represent a consumer advocacy  
16                   agency that represents individuals who are affected by  
17                   mental illness and/or their family members, and

18           b.   two members who shall each represent a community-based  
19                   constituency advocacy entity that represents both  
20                   individuals who are or have been incarcerated or their  
21                   family members.

22          F.   Ex officio members may be appointed by the chair consisting  
23 of representatives from existing female offender initiatives or  
24 programs including, but not limited to:

1           1. Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children as created  
2 by Senate Joint Resolution No. 48 of the 2nd Session of the 49th  
3 Legislature (2004);

4           2. County Community Corrections Programs;

5           3. Community Sentencing Program;

6           4. Oklahoma Access to Recovery;

7           5. Family Justice Project; and

8           6. Children of Promise Mentors of Hope.

9           G. The nonlegislative members of the task force shall receive  
10 travel reimbursement pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act,  
11 and the Legislative members shall receive reimbursement by the  
12 appointing authority.

13           H. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint the  
14 chair and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint  
15 the vice-chair. The chair and vice-chair shall jointly convene the  
16 first meeting of the task force on or before August 1, 2008. The  
17 membership may appoint from among the members other officers deemed  
18 necessary for the work of the task force. The chair may form  
19 committees and subcommittees as deemed appropriate. All appointed  
20 members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.  
21 All members shall be voting members, except ex officio members.

22           I. At the conclusion of the study, the task force shall prepare  
23 a final report to be distributed to the Governor, the Co-Presidents  
24 Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of

1 Representatives, the Director of the Department of Corrections, the  
2 Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
3 Services, and the Director of the Department of Rehabilitation  
4 Services.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

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

10

11 51-2-10936 SAB 04/07/08

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24