

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2596

By: Morrissette, Nelson,  
Ownbey, Wright (Harold) and  
Tibbs of the House

3  
4 and

5 Coates and Corn of the  
6 Senate

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8 An Act relating to poor persons; amending Section 7,  
9 Chapter 315, O.S.L. 2006 (56 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section  
10 1011.7), which relates to the plan to implement  
11 alternatives for long-term care; specifying content  
12 of the cash and counseling program; providing for  
13 noncodification; and providing an effective date.

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

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

17 Section 2 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the  
18 "Empower-OK Act".

19 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 7, Chapter 315, O.S.L.  
20 2006 (56 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 1011.7), is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 Section 1011.7 The Oklahoma Health Care Authority shall develop  
23 and administer a plan for the implementation of alternatives for  
24 long-term care. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

1 1. The continued development and funding of community-based  
2 options throughout the State of Oklahoma;

3 2. The establishment of a cash and counseling program that  
4 focuses on increasing personal responsibility, efficiency in  
5 utilization, and consumer satisfaction. The program shall include:

6 a. provisions ensuring that existing benefits shall not  
7 be terminated or decreased as a result of the  
8 development of the cash and counseling program,

9 b. provisions ensuring that consumers receive a monthly  
10 budget based on the needs of that individual,

11 c. authority for consumers to use the budget to obtain  
12 personal care services and make home modifications to  
13 suit the needs of the individual, and

14 d. counselors available to work with consumers to develop  
15 and revise individual budgets;

16 3. The establishment of a program providing for state  
17 incentives to Oklahoma citizens for long-term care planning; and

18 4. Stronger private/public partnerships at the community level  
19 in order to address unmet patient needs.

20 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 8th day of March, 2010.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives

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6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate