

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE BILL 283

By: Coates of the Senate

4 and

5 Jackson of the House

6  
7  
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 An Act relating to children; creating the Task Force  
10 on Youth Transitioning into Adulthood; providing  
expiration date; specifying duties; providing for  
11 membership; directing selection of chair and vice-  
chair; requiring quorum; providing for travel  
12 reimbursement; directing staff support by the Office  
of Juvenile Affairs; directing date of first meeting;  
13 requiring certain report; providing for  
noncodification; providing an effective date; and  
14 declaring an emergency.

15  
16  
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

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

20 A. There is hereby created until November 30, 2009, the Task  
21 Force on Youth Transitioning into Adulthood to study policies and  
22 programs to assist youth as they transition into adulthood through  
23 education, behavioral health, social services, housing, and  
24 employment services. The task force shall:

- 1        1. Conduct an in-depth study of the populations of youth who  
2 are not served or who are inadequately served as they transition  
3 into adulthood, including, but not limited to:
  - 4            a. youth who are currently in or are preparing to exit  
5                the juvenile justice system,
  - 6            b. youth who are currently in or are preparing to exit  
7                the foster care system, and
  - 8            c. youth who experience conditions in their daily lives  
9                that place their health, safety, physical and mental  
10                health at risk;
- 11        2. Study issues that directly impact the ability of youth to  
12 transition into adulthood, including, but not limited to:
  - 13            a. financial independence,
  - 14            b. life skills, and
  - 15            c. transportation;
- 16        3. Study current state and federal programs that assist youth  
17 as they transition into adulthood, including program criteria and  
18 barriers;
- 19        4. Generate input from youth about their personal experience  
20 with programs and issues that impact their ability to transition  
21 into adulthood;
- 22        5. Explore the creation of new state programs to ensure that  
23 young people in Oklahoma who do not qualify for existing programs  
24 can be served;

1       6. Examine various methods, including but not limited to tax  
2 credits, that can be used to incentivize businesses to hire young  
3 people; and

4       7. Provide recommendations for legislation to implement the  
5 findings of the task force.

6       B. The task force shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members  
7 as follows:

8       1. The Director of the Department of Human Services;

9       2. The Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs;

10       3. One member from the Governor's Task Force on Economic  
11 Development to be appointed by the Governor;

12       4. Nine members appointed by President Pro Tempore of the  
13 Senate as follows:

14       a. one member from the Senate,

15       b. one member from the State Department of Rehabilitation  
16 Services,

17       c. one member from the State Department of Education with  
18 experience in alternative education,

19       d. one member from a chamber of commerce in the state,

20       e. one member from the Oklahoma Employment Security  
21 Commission,

22       f. one member from the Oklahoma City Branch of the  
23 Federal Reserve Bank,

24       g. one member from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce,

1 h. one member from the Oklahoma Department of Career and  
2 Technology Education, and

3 i. one member from the Oklahoma Department of Labor; and

4 5. Nine members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
5 Representatives as follows:

6 a. one member from the House of Representatives,

7 b. one member from a homeless coalition in the state,

8 c. one member from an organization representing  
9 municipalities in the state,

10 d. one member from a Job Corps Center in Oklahoma,

11 e. one member from an institution of higher education in  
12 the state with experience in vocational training for  
13 young people,

14 f. one member from an association of Youth Service  
15 Agencies in the state,

16 g. one member from an association of child advocates in  
17 the state,

18 h. one member from an association that promotes the  
19 development of the Latino community in the state, and

20 i. one member from a Native American tribe with  
21 experience providing transitional services to youth.

22 C. The members of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of  
23 the appointing authority.  
24

1 D. The Director of the Department of Human Services and the  
2 Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall serve as co-chairs  
3 for the task force.

4 E. A quorum of the task force shall be required in order for  
5 any final action of the task force.

6 F. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for  
7 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

8 1. Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
9 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
10 duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74  
11 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

12 2. Nonlegislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
13 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
14 duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

15 G. Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the  
16 Office of Juvenile Affairs.

17 H. The task force shall conduct its initial meeting not later  
18 than fifteen (15) days after the effective date of this act.

19 I. The task force shall report its findings, including any  
20 legislative recommendations, to the President Pro Tempore of the  
21 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
22 Governor by November 30, 2009.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.  
24

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

6 52-1-254 JM 3/6/2009 3:34:40 AM

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24