STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 1974

By: Jolley and Justice of the Senate

and

Sears and Martin (Scott) of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to state government personnel; amending 56 O.S. 2011, Section 26.17, which relates to classification of employees of the Department of Human Services; modifying number of employees authorized to be in the unclassified service; amending 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.5, which relates to unclassified service; adding certain unclassified positions; amending 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.12, which relates to employees of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services; modifying number of certain unclassified positions; amending 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.24, which relates to classification of employees of the State Election Board; adding unclassified positions; amending 74 O.S. 2011, Section 2242, which relates to unclassified employees of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department; modifying number of unclassified positions; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 56 O.S. 2011, Section 26.17, is amended to read as follows:

Section 26.17. A. The Director of Human Services, subject to the approval of the Commission for Human Services, shall have the power to employ and fix the qualifications, duties and compensation of employees necessary to the fulfillment of the provisions of this act, and shall have the power to approve any legal claim for payment.

B. The Department of Human Services shall be a Merit System agency. The provisions of this section shall supersede and revoke any and all Executive Orders placing the Department of Human Services or its predecessors under the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration.

C. In addition to offices, positions, and personnel in the unclassified service pursuant to Sections 840-5.3 and 840-5.5 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the following offices, positions, and personnel shall be in the unclassified service:

1. Campus police appointed pursuant to Section 162.2 of this title;

2. The legal division or unit established pursuant to Section 236 of this title;

3. The Construction Unit and the Architectural and Engineering Unit or their successor units; and

4. A maximum of ~~five percent (5%)~~ <u>seven percent (7%)</u> of the maximum number of full-time-equivalent positions authorized by law to the Department of Human Services and selected at the discretion

of the Director of the Department of Human Services. Employees retained in the unclassified service under the provisions of this section shall be employees at will. Any classified employee occupying a position selected by the Director pursuant to this paragraph to become an unclassified position may elect to retain classified status. All future appointees to such position shall be in the unclassified service. The Director shall submit a list of such positions to the Office of Personnel Management by September 1, 2004, and annually thereafter.

D. All other offices, positions and personnel of the Department of Human Services shall be classified and subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration, as provided in the Oklahoma Personnel Act and rules promulgated thereunder.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.5, is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-5.5. A. The following offices, positions, and personnel shall be in the unclassified service and shall not be placed under the classified service:

1. Persons chosen by popular vote or appointment to fill an elective office, and their employees, except the employees of the Corporation Commission, the State Department of Education and the Department of Labor;

2. Members of boards and commissions, and heads of agencies; also one principal assistant or deputy and one executive secretary for each state agency;

3. All judges, elected or appointed, and their employees;

4. Persons employed with one-time, limited duration, federal or other grant funding that is not continuing or indefinitely renewable. The length of the unclassified employment shall not exceed the period of time for which that specific federal funding is provided;

5. All officers and employees of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, State Board of Education and Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education;

6. Persons employed in a professional or scientific capacity to make or conduct a temporary and special inquiry, investigation, or examination on behalf of the Legislature or a committee thereof or by authority of the Governor. These appointments and authorizations shall terminate on the first day of the regular legislative session immediately following the appointment, if not terminated earlier. However, nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the reauthorization and reappointment of any such person. Any such appointment shall be funded from the budget of the appointing authority;

7. Election officials and employees;

8. Temporary employees employed to work less than one thousand (1,000) hours in any twelve-month period, and seasonal employees

employed by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department pursuant to Section 2241 of this title who work less than one thousand six hundred (1,600) hours in any twelve-month period;

9. Department of Public Safety employees occupying the following offices or positions:

a. administrative aides to the Commissioner,

b. executive secretaries to the Commissioner,

c. the Governor's representative of the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office who shall be appointed by the Governor,

d. Highway Patrol Colonel,

e. Highway Patrol Lieutenant Colonel,

f. Director of Finance,

g. noncommissioned pilots,

h. Information Systems Administrator,

i. Law Enforcement Telecommunications System Specialist,

j. Director of Driver Compliance,

k. Director of Transportation Division,

l. Director of the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office,

m. Civil Rights Administrator,

n. Budget Analyst,

o. Comptroller,

p. Chaplain,

q. Helicopter Mechanic,

r. Director of Safety Compliance,

s. Human Resources Director,

t. Administrator of Department Services, and

u. a maximum of seven (7) positions for the purpose of administering programs in the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office, within full-time employee limitations of the Department, employed with federal funding that is continuing or indefinitely renewable. The authorization for such positions shall be terminated if the federal funding for positions is discontinued;

provided, any person appointed to a position prescribed in subparagraph d or e of this paragraph shall have a right of return to the classified commissioned position without any loss of rights, privileges or benefits immediately upon completion of the duties in the unclassified commissioned position;

10. Professional trainees only during the prescribed length of their course of training or extension study;

11. Students who are employed on a part-time basis, which shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of a normal forty-hour work week or thirty (30) hours per week, or less, or on a full-time basis if the employment is pursuant to a cooperative education program such as that provided for under Title I IV-D of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087a-1087c), as amended, and who are regularly enrolled in:

a. an institution of higher learning within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,

b. an institution of higher learning qualified to become coordinated with The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. For purposes of this section, a student shall be considered a regularly enrolled student if the student is enrolled in a minimum of five (5) hours of accredited graduate courses or a minimum of ten (10) hours of accredited undergraduate courses, provided, however, the student shall only be required to be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) hours of accredited undergraduate courses during the summer, or

c. high school students regularly enrolled in a high school in Oklahoma and regularly attending classes during such time of enrollment;

12. The spouses of personnel who are employed on a part-time basis to assist or work as a relief for their spouses in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department;

13. Service substitute attendants who are needed to replace museum and site attendants who are unavoidably absent. Service substitutes may work as part-time or full-time relief for absentees for a period of not more than four (4) weeks per year in the Oklahoma Historical Society sites and museums; such substitutes will

not count towards the agency's full-time-equivalent (FTE) employee limit;

14. Employees of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, the State Senate, or the Legislative Service Bureau;

15. Corporation Commission personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. Administrative aides, and executive secretaries to the Commissioners,

b. Directors of all the divisions, personnel managers and comptrollers,

c. General Counsel,

d. Public Utility Division Chief Engineer,

e. Public Utility Division Chief Accountant,

f. Public Utility Division Chief Economist,

g. Public Utility Division Deputy Director,

h. Secretary of the Commission,

i. Deputy Conservation Director,

j. Manager of Pollution Abatement,

k. Manager of Field Operations,

l. Manager of Technical Services,

m. Public Utility Division Chief of Telecommunications,

n. Director of Information Services,

o. All Data Processing employees hired on or after September 1, 2005,

p. All Public Utilities employees hired on or after September 1, 2007,

q. All Regulatory Program Managers hired on or after September 1, 2007, and

r. All Pipeline Safety Department employees hired on or after September 1, 2008;

16. At the option of the employing agency, the Supervisor, Director, or Educational Coordinator in any other state agency having a primary responsibility to coordinate educational programs operated for children in state institutions;

17. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services personnel occupying the following offices and positions at each facility:

a. Director of Facility,

b. Deputy Director for Administration,

c. Clinical Services Director,

d. Executive Secretary to Director, and

e. Directors or Heads of Departments or Services;

18. Office of State Finance personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. State Comptroller,

b. Administrative Officers,

c. Alternator Claims Auditor,

d. Employees hired to fulfill state compliance agency requirements under Model Tribal Gaming Compacts,

e. Employees of the Budget Division,

f. Employees of the Fiscal and Research Division,

g. Employees hired to work on the CORE Systems Project; and

h. The following employees of the Information Services Division:

(1) Information Services Division Manager,

(2) Network Manager,

(3) Network Technicians,

(4) Security Manager,

(5) Contracts/Purchasing Manager,

(6) Operating and Applications Manager,

(7) Project Manager,

(8) Help Desk Manager,

(9) Help Desk Technicians,

(10) Quality Assurance Manager,

(11) ISD Analysts,

(12) CORE Manager,

(13) Enterprise System/Database Software Manager,

(14) Data Center Operations and Production Manager,

(15) Voice Communications Manager,

(16) Applications Development Manager,

(17) Projects Manager,

(18) PC's Manager,

(19) Servers Manager,

(20) Portal Manager,

(21) Procurement Specialists,

(22) Security Technicians,

(23) Enterprise Communications and Network Administrator,

(24) Server Support Specialists,

(25) Senior Server Support Specialists,

(26) Systems Support Specialists,

(27) Senior Systems Support Specialists,

(28) Chief Technology Officer,

(29) Facility Manager,

(30) Application Development Specialists,

(31) Senior Application Development Specialists,

(32) Workstation Specialists,

(33) Senior Workstation Specialists,

(34) Cabling Infrastructure Administration,

(35) Planning Specialists,

(36) Senior Planning Specialists,

(37) Network Specialists,

(38) Senior Network Specialists,

(39) Voice Communication Specialists, ~~and~~

(40) Senior Voice Communication Specialists,

(41) Information Systems Operations Specialists, and

(42) Public Information Officer;

19. Employees of the Oklahoma Industrial Finance Authority;

20. Those positions so specified in the annual business plan of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce;

21. Those positions so specified in the annual business plan of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology;

22. The following positions and employees of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics:

a. positions for which the annual salary is Twenty-four Thousand One Hundred Ninety-three Dollars ($24,193.00) or more, as determined by the Office of Personnel Management, provided no position shall become unclassified because of any change in salary or grade while it is occupied by a classified employee,

b. positions requiring certification by the State Department of Education, and

c. positions and employees authorized to be in the unclassified service of the state elsewhere in this section or in subsection B of this section;

23. Office of Personnel Management employees occupying the following positions:

a. the Carl Albert Internship Program Coordinator,

b. one Administrative Assistant,

c. one Workforce Planning Manager,

d. Assistant Administrators,

e. one Associate Administrator, and

f. Division Directors;

24. Department of Labor personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. two Deputy Commissioners,

b. two Executive Secretaries to the Commissioner,

c. Chief of Staff,

d. two Administrative Assistants,

e. Information Systems Administrator,

f. three Safety and Health Directors,

g. Research Director,

h. Employment Standards Director,

i. Asbestos Director,

j. General Counsel,

k. one Legal Secretary,

l. one Docket Clerk, and

m. two Information Systems Application Specialists;

25. The State Bond Advisor and his or her employees;

26. The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission employees occupying the following positions:

a. Associate Director,

b. Secretary to the Associate Director, and

c. Assistant to the Executive Director;

27. Oklahoma Human Rights Commission personnel occupying the position of Administrative Assistant;

28. Officers and employees of the State Banking Department;

29. Officers and employees of the University Hospitals Authority except personnel in the state classified service pursuant to Section 3211 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes and members of the University Hospitals Authority Model Personnel System created pursuant to subsection E of Section 3211 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes or as otherwise provided for in Section 3213.2 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

30. Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission employees occupying the following positions:

a. three Administrative Service Assistant positions, however, employees in such positions who are in the unclassified service on June 4, 2003, may make an election to be in the classified service without a loss in salary by September 1, 2003, and

b. the Deputy Director position in addition to the one authorized by paragraph 2 of this subsection;

31. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation employees occupying the following positions:

a. five assistant directors,

b. six special investigators,

c. one information representative,

d. one federally funded physical evidence technician,

e. four federally funded laboratory analysts,

f. a maximum of fourteen positions employed for the purpose of managing the automated information systems of the agency,

g. one executive secretary in addition to the one executive secretary authorized pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subsection,

h. Child Abuse Response Team (CART) investigator,

i. Child Abuse Response Team (CART) forensic interviewer, and

j. nine administration and research positions and five data processing and information technology positions transferred from the Criminal Justice Resource Center pursuant to Section 150.17a of this title;

32. The Department of Transportation, the following positions:

a. ~~Director of the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission,~~

~~b.~~ five Department of Transportation Assistant Director positions and their executive assistants,

~~c.~~

b. eight field division engineer positions,

~~d.~~

c. one pilot position,

~~e. five~~

d. ten Project Manager positions, and

~~f. five~~

e. ten Transportation Coordinators;

33. Commissioners of the Land Office employees occupying the following positions:

a. Director of the Investments Division,

b. Assistant Director of the Investments Division,

c. one Administrative Assistant,

d. one Audit Tech position,

e. one Auditor I position,

f. two Accounting Tech I positions,

g. two Administrative Assistant I positions,

h. two Imaging Specialist positions,

i. one Information Systems Specialist position,

j. Director of Communications,

k. Director of Royalty Compliance,

l. Director of Mineral Management,

m. Director of Accounting,

n. Chief of Staff,

o. First Assistant Secretary,

p. Director of Real Estate Management,

q. one executive secretary,

r. one legal secretary, and

s. one legal assistant;

34. Within the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control Commission, the following positions:

a. six Narcotics Agent positions and three Typist Clerk/Spanish transcriptionists, including a Typist Clerk Supervisor/Spanish transcriptionist, provided, authorization for such positions shall be terminated if the federal funding for the positions is discontinued,

b. one executive secretary in addition to the one authorized pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subsection,

c. one fiscal officer,

d. one full-time Programmer, and

e. one full-time Network Engineer;

35. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma is authorized such unclassified employees within full-time employee limitations to work in any of the Department of Defense directed youth programs, the State of Oklahoma Juvenile Justice youth programs, those persons reimbursed from Armory Board or Billeting Fund accounts, and skilled trade positions;

36. Within the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth the following unclassified positions:

a. one Oversight Specialist and one Community Development Planner,

b. one State Plan Grant Coordinator, provided authorization for the position shall be terminated when federal support for the position by the United States Department of Education Early Intervention Program is discontinued,

c. one executive secretary in addition to the one authorized pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subsection, and

d. one Programs Manager;

37. The following positions and employees of the Department of Central Services:

a. one Executive Secretary in addition to the Executive Secretary authorized by paragraph 2 of this subsection,

b. the Director of Central Purchasing,

c. one Alternate Fuels Administrator,

d. one Director of Special Projects,

e. three postauditors,

f. four high-technology contracting officers,

g. one Executive Assistant to the Purchasing Director,

h. four Contracts Managers,

i. one Associate Director,

j. one specialized HiTech/Food Contracting Officer,

k. one State Use Contracting Officer,

l. one Property Distribution Administrator,

m. three licensed architects assigned to the Construction and Properties Division,

n. three licensed engineers assigned to the Construction and Properties Division,

o. eight construction consultants assigned to the Construction and Properties Division,

p. one attorney assigned to the Construction and Properties Division,

q. three positions assigned to the Information Services Division, which shall include one Information Technology Manager, one Applications Specialist and one Data Planning Specialist,

r. four positions assigned to Fleet Management, which shall include one Deputy Fleet Manager and three Management Analysts,

s. one Chief Auditor,

t. one Assistant Director of Central Purchasing Division,

u. one Professional Errors and Omissions Liability Adjuster,

v. three Strategic Sourcing Managers,

w. three Strategic Sourcing Assistant Managers, and

x. two Printing Services Brokers;

38. Oklahoma Water Resources Board personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. four ~~Water Quality~~ Assistant Division Chiefs,

b. four Water Resources Division Chiefs, and

c. Director of Water Planning;

39. J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. Physical Therapists,

b. Physical Therapist Assistants,

c. Occupational Therapists,

d. Certified Occupational Therapist Aides, and

e. Speech Pathologists;

40. The Development Officer, the Director of the State Museum of History and the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center Director within the Oklahoma Historical Society;

41. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry personnel occupying the following positions:

a. one Executive Secretary in addition to the Executive Secretary authorized by paragraph 2 of this subsection and one Executive Assistant,

b. nineteen Agricultural Marketing Coordinator III positions,

c. temporary fire suppression personnel, regardless of the number of hours worked, who are employed by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry; provided, however, notwithstanding the provisions of any other section of law, the hours worked by such employees shall not entitle such employees to any benefits received by full-time employees,

d. one Information Technology Specialist,

e. one Director of Administrative Services,

f. one Water Quality Consumer Complaint Coordinator,

g. one hydrologist position,

h. Public Information Office Director,

i. one Information Technology Technician,

j. Legal Services Director,

k. Animal Industry Services Director,

l. Agricultural Environmental Management Services Director,

m. Forestry Services Director,

n. Plant Industry and Consumer Services Director,

o. one Grants Administrator position,

p. Director of Laboratory Services,

q. Chief of Communications,

r. Public Information Manager,

s. Inventory/Supply Officer,

t. five Agriculture Field Inspector positions assigned the responsibility for conducting inspections and audits of agricultural grain storage warehouses. All other Agriculture Field Inspector positions and employees of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall be classified and subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration. On November 1, 2002, all other unclassified Agriculture Field Inspectors shall be given status in the classified service as provided in Section 840-4.2 of this title,

u. Rural Fire Coordinator,

v. one Agricultural Marketing Coordinator I,

w. Food Safety Division Director,

x. two Environmental Program Specialists,

y. two Scale Technicians,

z. two Plant Protection Specialists, and

aa. Chief Agent;

42. The Contracts Administrator within the Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Council;

43. The Development Officer within the Oklahoma Department of Libraries;

44. Oklahoma Real Estate Commission personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. Educational Program Director, and

b. Data Processing Manager;

45. ~~A Chief Consumer Credit Examiner for~~ All employees of the Department of Consumer Credit;

46. All officers and employees of the Oklahoma Capitol Complex and Centennial Commemoration Commission;

47. All officers and employees of the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission;

48. One Museum Archivist of The Will Rogers Memorial Commission;

49. One Fire Protection Engineer of the Office of the State Fire Marshal;

50. Acting incumbents employed pursuant to Section 209 of Title 44 or Section 48 of Title 72 of the Oklahoma Statutes who shall not be included in any limitation on full-time equivalency imposed by law on an agency. Permanent classified employees may request a leave of absence from classified status and accept an unclassified appointment and compensation as an acting incumbent with the same agency; provided, the leave shall expire no later than two (2) years from the date of the acting incumbent appointment. An appointing authority may establish unclassified positions and appoint unclassified employees to perform the duties of a permanent

classified employee who is on leave of absence from a classified position to serve as an acting incumbent. All unclassified appointments created pursuant to this paragraph shall expire no later than two (2) years from the date of appointment. Classified employees accepting unclassified appointments and compensation pursuant to this paragraph shall be entitled to participate without interruption in any benefit programs available to classified employees, including retirement and insurance programs. Immediately upon termination of an unclassified appointment pursuant to this paragraph, an employee on assignment from the classified service shall have a right to be restored to the classified service and reinstated to the former job family level and compensation plus any adjustments and increases in salary or benefits which the employee would have received but for the leave of absence;

51. The Oklahoma Homeland Security Director and all other positions assigned the responsibilities of working in the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security;

52. The following ~~eighteen (18)~~ positions<u>, offices or employees</u> in the State Department of Health:

a. ~~one surveillance supervisor~~ <u>State Commissioner of Health</u>,

b. ~~one surveillance project monitor~~ <u>Assistant State Commissioner of Health</u>,

c. ~~two bilingual interviewers~~ Deputy Commissioner of Health,

d. ~~eight senior interviewers~~ Chief Operating Officer, ~~and~~

e. ~~six interviewers~~ Service Chief,

f. Division Director,

g. County Administrator,

h. Executive Assistant,

i. Executive Administrative Assistant,

j. Executive Secretary,

k. Paralegal,

l. Legal Assistant,

m. Legal Secretary, and

n. All positions or employees assigned to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Systems for Health Care Information;

53. State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors personnel occupying the following offices and positions:

a. one Director of Enforcement, and

b. two Board Investigators;

54. One Information Systems Data Management Analyst of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board;

55. Two Management Information Systems positions of the Office of Juvenile Affairs; and

56. Heads of agencies, principal assistants or deputies and executive secretaries of an agency that is consolidated into another agency.

B. If an agency has the authority to employ personnel in the following offices and positions, the appointing authority shall have the discretion to appoint personnel to the unclassified service:

1. Licensed medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, dentists, psychologists, and nurses;

2. Certified public accountants;

3. Licensed attorneys;

4. Licensed veterinarians; and

5. Licensed pharmacists.

C. Effective July 1, 1996, authorization for unclassified offices, positions, or personnel contained in a bill or joint resolution shall terminate June 30 of the ensuing fiscal year after the authorization unless the authorization is codified in the Oklahoma Statutes or the termination is otherwise provided in the legislation.

D. The appointing authority of agencies participating in the statewide information systems project may establish unclassified positions and appoint unclassified employees to the project as needed. Additional unclassified positions may be established, if required, to appoint an unclassified employee to perform the duties of a permanent classified employee who is temporarily absent from a

classified position as a result of assignment to this project. All unclassified appointments under this authority shall expire no later than December 31, 2007, and all unclassified positions established to support the project shall be abolished. Both the positions and appointments resulting from this authority shall be exempt from any agency FTE limitations and any limits imposed on the number of unclassified positions authorized. Permanent classified employees may request a leave of absence from classified status and accept an unclassified appointment and compensation with the same agency under the provisions of this subsection; provided, the leave shall expire no later than December 31, 2007. Employees accepting the appointment and compensation shall be entitled to participate without interruption in any benefit programs available to classified employees, including retirement and insurance programs. Immediately upon termination of an unclassified appointment pursuant to this subsection, an employee on assignment from the classified service shall have a right to be restored to the classified service and reinstated to the former job family level and compensation plus any adjustments and increases in salary or benefits which the employee would have received but for the leave of absence.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.12, is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-5.12. A. The State Department of Rehabilitation Services shall be under the Merit System. Except as otherwise

provided in this section, all offices, positions and personnel shall be classified and subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration and rules promulgated hereunder. This section shall supersede and repeal any and all executive orders issued pursuant to Section 840-1.1 et seq. of this title to place the agency or its predecessors under the Merit System.

B. In addition to offices, positions and personnel that are unclassified pursuant to Section 840-5.5 of this title, the Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services may establish positions in the unclassified service and place employees in the positions provided the total number of unclassified positions does not exceed fifty-two (52). This limit does not include State Department of Rehabilitation Services employees subject to Section 840-5.3 of this title.

C. The limit on unclassified positions provided for in subsection B of this section shall not apply to the instructional and administrative personnel at the Oklahoma School for the Blind and the Oklahoma School for the Deaf as listed in Section 1419 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

D. The limit on unclassified positions provided for in subsection B of this section shall not apply to the employees of the Disability Determination Division of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services. The Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services may establish positions in the unclassified

service in the Disability Determination Division and may place employees in those positions provided the total number of those unclassified positions does not exceed ~~fourteen~~ twenty-one.

E. Instructional and administrative personnel of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services at the Oklahoma School for the Blind and the Oklahoma School for the Deaf pursuant to Section 1419 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be considered unclassified state employees solely for the purpose of entering and maintaining employment data in the state Personnel Management Information System established pursuant to Section 840-2.13 of this title, unless otherwise provided by law.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-5.24, is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-5.24. ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the~~

A. The State Election Board shall be under the Merit System of Personnel Administration. Except ~~for the Secretary of the State Election Board, the Assistant Secretary of the State Election Board, the Support Services Division Director, the Election Services Division Director, the Information Services Division Director, one Election Technology Coordinator, one Public Information Officer and one Administrative Assistant~~ as provided in subsection B of this section or in Section 840-5.5 of this title, all offices, positions, and personnel shall be classified and subject to the provisions of

the Merit System of Personnel Administration and rules promulgated hereunder. Salaries and job family allocations shall be determined in accordance with Section 840-4.2 of this title. ~~This section shall supersede and repeal any and all executive orders issued pursuant to the Oklahoma Personnel Act to place the agency or its predecessors under the Merit System.~~

B. In addition to offices, positions and personnel that are unclassified pursuant to Section 840-5.5 of this title, the following offices, positions and personnel shall be in the unclassified service:

1. Secretary of the State Election Board;

2. Assistant Secretaries of the State Election Board, not to exceed two (2);

3. Division Directors, not to exceed three (3);

4. Director of Public Information;

5. Election Systems Coordinator; and

6. Five (5) additional positions designated by the Secretary of the State Election Board.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 2242, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2242. The following offices and positions in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department shall be in the unclassified service and shall not be subject to the Merit System of Personnel Administration:

1. The Executive Director, the Deputy Director, directors of the divisions of the Department and administrative assistant of each, and not more than ~~four~~ eight positions involved in the executive management of the Department;

2. All positions in the Traveler Response Information Program;

3. All ~~professional or managerial~~ positions whose principal function is one of the following:

a. marketing and promotion of travel and tourism to and within the state,

b. promoting the state as a viable location for producing motion pictures and television programs and for recording music,

c. developing, producing, and on-air broadcasting of "Discover Oklahoma", the weekly promotional television program,

d. not more than ~~fifteen~~ twenty positions performing financial ~~management~~ functions for the Department, and

e. not more than ~~five~~ ten positions performing human resources functions for the Department~~, and~~

~~f. not more than two positions performing information services functions for the Department~~;

4. Any position associated with the development and production of "Oklahoma Today" magazine; and

5. Any position in the Division of State Parks utilized in the operation and administration of state resorts, cabins, lodges, and golf courses.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

SECTION 7. 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.

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