

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 HOUSE BILL 2735

By: Peters

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to children; amending 10 O.S. 2011,
8 Sections 601.3 and 601.6, which relate to the powers
9 and duties of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and
10 Youth; removing certain duties; authorizing
11 Commission to select Chief Children's Advocate;
12 specifying requirements; specifying duties of
13 Advocate; providing for the Office to take
14 responsibility for certain investigations; directing
15 Office to rely upon existing protocols and policies;
16 directing Office of Client Advocacy to create certain
17 report; specifying certain information shall remain
18 confidential; providing penalty for violations;
19 specifying use of information shall be limited;
20 authorizing certain use of information; providing
21 that Chief Children's Advocate shall have certain
22 access; amending 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-6-105,
23 which relates to public disclosure of information in
24 certain child welfare cases; providing for the
disclosure of certain investigations; amending 10A
O.S. 2011, Section 1-9-112, which relates to Office
of Client Advocacy duties; removing certain duties;
directing Advocate General to assist Office of
Juvenile Oversight in the transfer of duties;
amending 10A O.S. 2011, Section 2-7-202, which
relates to powers and duties of the Office of
Juvenile Affairs; directing Office to certify certain
shelters managed by the Department of Human Services;
and providing an effective date.

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

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2011, Section 601.3, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 601.3 The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth is
4 hereby authorized and directed to:

5 1. Establish and maintain the Office of Planning and
6 Coordination for Services to Children and Youth;

7 2. Establish and maintain the Office of Juvenile System
8 Oversight; and

9 3. Designate community partnership districts for services to
10 children and youth and, within the limitations of available funds,
11 whether appropriated or otherwise available, provide staff,
12 technical assistance and other assistance as necessary and
13 appropriate to the district boards; ~~and~~

14 ~~4. Establish a system of certification in accordance with the~~
15 ~~Child Care Facilities Licensing Act for the shelters managed and~~
16 ~~operated by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Section~~
17 ~~7004-3.1 of this title.~~

18 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2011, Section 601.6, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 601.6 A. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall
21 have the responsibility of investigating and reporting misfeasance
22 and malfeasance within the children and youth service system,
23 inquiring into areas of concern, investigating complaints filed with
24 the Office of Juvenile System Oversight, and performing issue-

1 specific systemic monitoring as directed by the Commission on
2 Children and Youth of the children and youth service system to
3 ascertain compliance with established responsibilities.

4 It shall be the duty of the Office of Juvenile System Oversight
5 to conduct not less than one but not more than two regular,
6 periodic, unannounced inspections of state-operated children's
7 institutions and facilities and to review the reports of the
8 inspections of the State Fire Marshal and the Department of Health
9 and any agencies which accredit such institutions and facilities.

10 B. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall:

11 1. Have the authority to examine and copy all records and
12 budgets pertaining to the children and youth service system and to
13 interview the residents of such facilities and shall have access to
14 all facilities within the children and youth service system for the
15 purpose of conducting systemic oversight and complaint
16 investigations;

17 2. Have the authority to subpoena witnesses and hold public
18 hearings;

19 3. Establish, in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Act,
20 Sections 1801 through 1813 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes, a
21 voluntary program for foster parents to mediate complaints
22 concerning the rights of foster parents, as provided for in Section
23 ~~7206.1~~ 1-9-119 of ~~this title~~ Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes,
24 that relate to certain actions, inactions or decisions of the

1 Department of Human Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, or
2 child-placing agencies that may adversely affect the safety and
3 well-being of children in the custody of the state;

4 4. Issue reports to the Governor, Speaker of the House of
5 Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Chief Justice
6 of the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma, any appropriate
7 prosecutorial agency, the director of the agency under
8 consideration, and other persons as necessary and appropriate; and

9 5. Provide recommendations to the Oklahoma Commission on
10 Children and Youth on or before May 1 of each year.

11 C. 1. Effective November 1, 2012, the Commission shall be
12 authorized to hire a Chief Children's Advocate, who shall be an
13 attorney. The Chief Children's Advocate of the Office of Juvenile
14 System Oversight shall be a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association
15 and shall have a minimum of three (3) years' experience as an
16 attorney. The compensation of the Chief Children's Advocate shall
17 be no less than that of the classification of Attorney III as
18 established in the Merit System of Personnel Administration
19 classification and compensation plan, but shall be an unclassified
20 position.

21 2. The duties and responsibilities of the Chief Children's
22 Advocate are to:

23 a. supervise any personnel assigned by the Commission to
24 assist the Chief Children's Advocate,

1 b. monitor and review grievance procedures and hearings,
2 c. establish and maintain a fair, simple, and expeditious
3 system for resolution of grievances of all children in
4 the custody of the Department of Human Services
5 regarding:

6 (1) the substance or application of any written or
7 unwritten policy or rule of the Department or
8 agent of the Department, or

9 (2) any decision or action by an employee or agent of
10 the Department, or of any child in the custody of
11 the Department,

12 d. investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, sexual
13 abuse, and sexual exploitation, as those terms are
14 defined in the Oklahoma Children's Code, by a person
15 responsible for a child, regardless of custody:

16 (1) residing outside the home of the child other than
17 children in foster care or children in the
18 custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and
19 placed in an Office of Juvenile Affairs' secure
20 facility,

21 (2) in a day treatment program, as defined in Section
22 175.20 of this title, and submit a report of the
23 results of the investigation to the appropriate

1 district attorney and to the State Department of
2 Health,

3 (3) receiving services from a community services
4 worker as that term is defined in Section 1025.1
5 of Title 56 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and

6 (4) residing in a state institution listed in Section
7 1406 of this title,

8 e. establish a system for investigating allegations of
9 misconduct, by a person responsible for a child, not
10 rising to the level of abuse, neglect, sexual abuse,
11 or sexual exploitation with regard to any child or
12 resident listed in subparagraph d of this paragraph,

13 f. make recommendations to the Commission, and provide
14 regular or special reports regarding grievance
15 procedures, hearings and investigations to the
16 Commission, and other appropriate persons as
17 necessary,

18 g. perform such other duties as required by the
19 Commission, and

20 h. develop policies and procedures as necessary to
21 implement the duties and responsibilities assigned to
22 the Office of Client Advocacy.

23 D. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall take
24 responsibility for all investigations assumed by the Office pursuant

1 to the requirements of this act which are pending at the Office of
2 Client Advocacy on January 1, 2013. The Chief Children's Advocate
3 shall rely upon all protocols and investigative policies and
4 procedures in effect at the Office of Client Advocacy until new
5 rules are promulgated and approved by the Commission.

6 E. The Office of Client Advocacy shall make a complete written
7 report of the investigations to be transferred to the Chief
8 Children's Advocate. The investigative report, together with its
9 recommendations, shall be submitted to the Chief Children's
10 Advocate.

11 F. 1. Except as otherwise provided by the Oklahoma Children's
12 Code, the reports required by Section 1-2-101 of Title 10A of the
13 Oklahoma Statutes or any other information acquired pursuant to the
14 Oklahoma Children's Code shall be confidential and may be disclosed
15 only as provided in Section 1-2-108 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma
16 Statutes and the Oklahoma Children's Code.

17 2. Except as otherwise provided by the Oklahoma Children's
18 Code, any violation of the confidentiality requirements of the
19 Oklahoma Children's Code shall, upon conviction, be a misdemeanor
20 punishable by up to six (6) months in jail, by a fine of Five
21 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

22 3. Any records or information disclosed as provided by this
23 subsection shall remain confidential. The use of any information
24 shall be limited to the purpose for which disclosure is authorized.

1 Rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Commission for Children and Youth
2 shall provide for disclosure of relevant information concerning
3 Office of Client Advocacy investigations to persons or entities
4 acting in an official capacity with regard to the subject of the
5 investigation.

6 4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting
7 the Office of Client Advocacy or the Commission from disclosing such
8 confidential information as may be necessary to secure appropriate
9 care, treatment, or protection of a child alleged to be abused or
10 neglected.

11 G. 1. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight and the Office
12 of Client Advocacy shall not release information that would identify
13 a person who makes a complaint to the Office, unless a court of
14 competent jurisdiction orders release of the information for good
15 cause shown.

16 2. The Chief Children's Advocate of the Office of Juvenile
17 System Oversight or designee shall at all times be granted access to
18 any foster home or any child-placing agency which is certified,
19 authorized, or funded by the Department.

20 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-6-105, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Section 1-6-105. A. For purposes of this section, the term
23 "near death" means the child is in serious or critical condition, as
24 certified by a physician, as a result of abuse or neglect.

1 B. When a person responsible for a child has been charged by
2 information or indictment with committing a crime resulting in the
3 death or near death of the child, there shall be a presumption that
4 the best interest of the public is served by public disclosure of
5 certain information concerning:

6 1. The circumstances of the investigation of the death or near
7 death of the child; and

8 2. Any other investigations concerning that child, or other
9 children while living in the same household.

10 C. 1. At any time subsequent to seven (7) days, but no more
11 than forty-five (45) days, of the date the person responsible for
12 the child has been criminally charged, the Department of Human
13 Services, the district attorney, the district court clerk, and the
14 judge having jurisdiction over the case, upon request, shall release
15 certain information to the public as follows:

16 a. a confirmation ~~shall be provided~~ by the Department as
17 to whether a report has been made concerning the
18 alleged victim or other children while living in the
19 same household and whether an investigation has begun,

20 b. confirmation ~~shall be provided~~ by the Department as to
21 whether previous reports have been made and the dates
22 thereof, a summary of those previous reports, the
23 dates and outcome of any investigations or actions
24 taken by the Department in response to a previous

- 1 report of child abuse or neglect, and the specific
2 recommendation made to the district attorney and any
3 subsequent action taken by the district attorney,
4 c. the dates of any judicial proceedings prior to the
5 death or near death of the child,
6 d. recommendations submitted by each participant in
7 writing at the judicial proceedings including
8 recommendations made at the hearing as they relate to
9 custody or placement of a child, and
10 e. the rulings of the court.

11 2. Specific recommendations made and services rendered by the
12 Department described in any progress reports of a pending case
13 submitted to the court may be disclosed by the Department.

14 D. 1. At any time subsequent to seven (7) days after the date
15 the person responsible for the child has been criminally charged,
16 the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth shall, upon request,
17 release certain information to the public within sixty (60) days of
18 the request as follows:

- 19 a. a confirmation ~~shall be provided~~ by the Commission as
20 to whether a report of suspected child abuse or
21 neglect has been made concerning the alleged victim or
22 other children while living in the same household and
23 whether an investigation has begun,
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- 1 b. confirmation ~~shall be provided~~ by the Commission as to
2 whether previous reports of suspected child abuse or
3 neglect have been made and the dates thereof, a
4 summary of those previous reports, the dates and
5 outcome of any investigations or actions taken by the
6 Department and the Commission in response to any
7 previous report of child abuse or neglect, and the
8 specific recommendation made to the district attorney
9 and any subsequent action taken by the district
10 attorney,
11 c. the dates of any judicial proceedings prior to the
12 death or near death of the child,
13 d. recommendations submitted by the Department and the
14 Commission shall be provided in writing including
15 recommendations made at the hearing as they relate to
16 custody or placement of a child, and
17 e. the rulings of the court.

18 2. Specific recommendations made by the Commission described in
19 any progress reports of a pending case submitted to the court may be
20 disclosed by the Commission.

21 E. If the death of a child has been determined by the Medical
22 Examiner to have been the result of homicide and criminal charges
23 have not been filed, and the child has been in the custody of the
24 Department of Human Services or has been the subject of

1 investigation by the Department of Human Services for allegations of
2 abuse or neglect, there shall be a presumption that the best
3 interest of the public is served by public disclosure of certain
4 information concerning:

5 1. The circumstances of the investigation of the death of the
6 child;

7 2. The circumstances of the previous investigation or
8 investigations by the Department of Human Services; and

9 3. The child welfare history if the child has been in the
10 custody of the Department of Human Services.

11 F. 1. At any time subsequent to seven (7) days, but no more
12 than forty-five (45) days, of the date the Medical Examiner issues
13 the autopsy report determining the cause of death of the child to be
14 homicide, the Department of Human Services, the district attorney,
15 the district court clerk, and the judge having jurisdiction over the
16 case, if applicable, upon request, shall release certain information
17 to the public as follows:

18 a. confirmation by the Department as to the previous
19 reports that have been made and the dates thereof, a
20 summary of those previous reports, the dates and
21 outcome of any investigations or actions taken by the
22 Department in response to a previous report of child
23 abuse or neglect, and the specific recommendation made
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1 to the district attorney and any subsequent action
2 taken by the district attorney,

3 b. the dates of judicial proceedings, if any, prior to
4 the death of the child,

5 c. recommendations, if any, submitted by each participant
6 in writing at the judicial proceedings including
7 recommendations made at the hearing as they relate to
8 custody or placement of the child, and

9 d. the rulings of the court, if any.

10 2. Specific recommendations made and services rendered by the
11 Department described in any progress reports of a pending case
12 submitted to the court may be disclosed by the Department.

13 G. 1. At any time subsequent to seven (7) days after the date
14 the Medical Examiner issues the autopsy report determining the cause
15 of death of the child to be homicide, the Oklahoma Commission on
16 Children and Youth shall, upon request, release certain information
17 to the public within sixty (60) days of the request as follows:

18 a. confirmation by the Commission as to the previous
19 reports of suspected child abuse or neglect made and
20 the dates thereof, a summary of those previous
21 reports, the dates and outcome of any investigations
22 or actions taken by the Department and the Commission
23 in response to any previous report of child abuse or
24 neglect, and the specific recommendation made to the

1 district attorney and any subsequent action taken by
2 the district attorney,

3 b. the dates of any judicial proceedings prior to the
4 death or near death of the child,

5 c. recommendations submitted by the Department and the
6 Commission in writing including recommendations made
7 at the hearing as they relate to custody or placement
8 of a child, and

9 d. the rulings of the court.

10 2. Specific recommendations made by the Commission described in
11 any progress reports of a pending case submitted to the court may be
12 disclosed by the Commission.

13 H. Any disclosure of information pursuant to this section shall
14 not identify or provide an identifying description of any
15 complainant or reporter of child abuse or neglect, and shall not
16 identify the name of the child victim's siblings or other children
17 living in the same household, the parent or other person responsible
18 for the child, or any other member of the household, other than the
19 person criminally charged.

20 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-9-112, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Section 1-9-112. A. 1. The Commission for Human Services is
23 authorized and directed to establish the Office of Client Advocacy
24 within the Department of Human Services and to employ personnel

1 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section and the duties
2 listed in this section. Personnel may be dismissed only for cause.

3 2. The chief administrative officer of the Office of Client
4 Advocacy shall be the Advocate General, who shall be an attorney
5 selected from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma
6 Commission on Children and Youth. The Advocate General shall be a
7 member of the Oklahoma Bar Association and shall have a minimum of
8 three (3) years' experience as an attorney. The compensation of the
9 Advocate General shall be no less than that of the classification of
10 Attorney III as established in the Merit System of Personnel
11 Administration classification and compensation plan, but shall be an
12 unclassified position.

13 3. The duties and responsibilities of the Advocate General are
14 to:

- 15 a. supervise personnel assigned to the Office of Client
- 16 Advocacy,
- 17 b. monitor and review grievance procedures and hearings,
- 18 c. establish and maintain a fair, simple, and expeditious
- 19 system for resolution of grievances of:

20 (1) ~~all children in the custody of the Department of~~
21 ~~Human Services regarding:~~

22 ~~(a) the substance or application of any written~~
23 ~~or unwritten policy or rule of the~~
24 ~~Department or agent of the Department, or~~

1 ~~(b) any decision or action by an employee or~~
2 ~~agent of the Department, or of any child in~~
3 ~~the custody of the Department,~~

4 ~~(2)~~ foster parents relating to the provision of
5 foster care services pursuant to this section and
6 Section 1-9-117 of this title, and

7 ~~(3)~~ (2) all persons receiving services from the
8 Developmental Disabilities Services Division of
9 the Department of Human Services,

10 d. ~~investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, sexual~~
11 ~~abuse, and sexual exploitation, as those terms are~~
12 ~~defined in the Oklahoma Children's Code, by a person~~
13 ~~responsible for a child, regardless of custody:~~

14 ~~(1) residing outside their own homes other than~~
15 ~~children in foster care or children in the~~
16 ~~custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and~~
17 ~~placed in an Office of Juvenile Affairs secure~~
18 ~~facility,~~

19 ~~(2) in a day treatment program as defined in Section~~
20 ~~175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and~~
21 ~~submit a report of the results of the~~
22 ~~investigation to the appropriate district~~
23 ~~attorney and to the State Department of Health,~~

1 ~~(3) receiving services from a community services~~
2 ~~worker as that term is defined in Section 1025.1~~
3 ~~of Title 56 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and~~
4 ~~(4) residing in a state institution listed in Section~~
5 ~~1406 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes,~~

6 ~~e. establish a system for investigating allegations of~~
7 ~~misconduct, by a person responsible for a child, not~~
8 ~~rising to the level of abuse, neglect, sexual abuse,~~
9 ~~or sexual exploitation with regard to any child or~~
10 ~~resident listed in subparagraph d of this paragraph,~~

11 ~~f.~~ coordinate any hearings or meetings of Departmental
12 administrative review committees conducted as a result
13 of unresolved grievances or as a result of
14 investigations,

15 ~~g.~~ e. make recommendations to the Director, and provide
16 regular or special reports regarding grievance
17 procedures, hearings and investigations to the
18 Director, the Commission, the Office of Juvenile
19 System Oversight and other appropriate persons as
20 necessary,

21 ~~h.~~ f. forward to the Office of Juvenile Systems Oversight,
22 for the information of the Director of that office, a
23 copy of the final report of any grievance which is not
24 resolved in the favor of the complainant,

1 Advocacy investigations to persons or entities acting in an official
2 capacity with regard to the subject of the investigation.

3 4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting
4 the Office of Client Advocacy or the Department from disclosing such
5 confidential information as may be necessary to secure appropriate
6 care, treatment, or protection of a child alleged to be abused or
7 neglected.

8 D. 1. The Office of Client Advocacy shall investigate any
9 complaint alleging that an employee of the Department or a child-
10 placing agency has threatened a foster parent with removal of a
11 child from the foster parent, harassed a foster parent, or refused
12 to place a child in a licensed or certified foster home, or
13 disrupted a child placement as retaliation or discrimination towards
14 a foster parent who has:

- 15 a. filed a grievance pursuant to Section 1-9-120 of this
16 title,
- 17 b. provided information to any state official or
18 Department employee, or
- 19 c. testified, assisted, or otherwise participated in an
20 investigation, proceeding, or hearing against the
21 Department or child-placing agency.

22 2. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any
23 complaint by a foster parent regarding the result of a criminal,
24 administrative, or civil proceeding for a violation of any law,

1 rule, or contract provision by that foster parent, or the action
2 taken by the Department or a child-placement agency in conformity
3 with the result of any such proceeding.

4 3. The Office of Client Advocacy shall at all times be granted
5 access to any foster home or any child-placing agency which is
6 certified, authorized, or funded by the Department.

7 E. The Advocate General shall assist the Office of Juvenile
8 System Oversight in the transition of duties to the Oklahoma
9 Commission on Children and Youth. The Advocate General shall
10 prepare summaries and briefing information for all pending cases
11 which shall be transferred to the Office of Juvenile System
12 Oversight.

13 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 2-7-202, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 2-7-202. A. There is hereby created the Office of
16 Juvenile Affairs which shall be responsible for programs and
17 services for juveniles alleged or adjudicated to be delinquent or in
18 need of supervision. Within the Office of Juvenile Affairs there is
19 hereby created:

20 1. The Division of Institutional Services which shall be
21 responsible for the institutions operated by or contracted for by
22 the Office of Juvenile Affairs;

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1 2. The Division of Community-based Youth Services which shall
2 be responsible for contracting with, monitoring, evaluation and
3 support of community-based Youth Services Agencies;

4 3. The Division of Juvenile and Treatment Services which shall
5 be responsible for intake, probation and parole services,
6 supervision and placement of juveniles and the contracting for,
7 monitoring and evaluation of residential and treatment programs
8 other than institutions and community-based Youth Services Agencies;
9 and

10 4. Such other divisions specifically established by the
11 Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs, with the
12 approval of the Board.

13 The Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs, with the
14 approval of the Board, shall appoint a Director of the Division of
15 Institutional Services, a Director of the Division of Community-
16 based Youth Services, and a Director of the Division of Juvenile and
17 Treatment Services to serve as the administrative head of each
18 division, respectively. The Division Directors shall have at least
19 six (6) years of experience in the same or similar programs or
20 facilities as they are to supervise and a baccalaureate degree or
21 higher level of education.

22 B. Suitable office space shall be provided by the Department of
23 Central Services to the Office of Juvenile Affairs, to the extent
24 necessary for the Office to implement its jurisdictional duties

1 provided by the Oklahoma Juvenile Code, and the Office may incur
2 necessary expenses for office rent.

3 C. Effective July 1, 1995, the Office of Juvenile Affairs shall
4 be a Merit System agency and all employees of the Office of Juvenile
5 Affairs shall be classified employees who are subject to the
6 Oklahoma Personnel Act and the Merit System of Personnel
7 Administration, except as otherwise provided by law.

8 D. Effective July 1, 1995, within its jurisdictional areas of
9 responsibility, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, acting through the
10 Executive Director, or persons authorized by law, rule or designated
11 by the Executive Director to perform such acts, shall have the power
12 and duty to:

13 1. Advise, consult, cooperate and enter into agreements with
14 agencies of the state, municipalities and counties, other states and
15 the federal government, and other persons;

16 2. Enter into agreements for, accept, administer and use,
17 disburse and administer grants of money, personnel and property from
18 the federal government or any department or agency thereof, or from
19 any state or state agency, or from any other source, to promote and
20 carry on in this state any program within its jurisdictional area of
21 responsibility;

22 3. Require the establishment and maintenance of records and
23 reports;

24

- 1 4. Establish a system of training for personnel in order to
2 assure uniform statewide application of law and rules;
- 3 5. Enforce the provisions of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code and
4 rules promulgated thereunder and orders issued pursuant thereto;
- 5 6. Charge and receive fees pursuant to fee schedules
6 promulgated by the Board of Juvenile Affairs;
- 7 7. Conduct studies, research and planning of programs and
8 functions, pursuant to the authority granted by the Oklahoma
9 Juvenile Code;
- 10 8. Enter into interagency agreements;
- 11 9. Provide administrative and support services to the Board of
12 Juvenile Affairs as necessary to assist the Board in the performance
13 of their duties;
- 14 10. Establish and maintain such facilities and institutions as
15 are necessary or convenient for the operation of programs for
16 children under the jurisdiction of the Office of Juvenile Affairs;
- 17 11. Lease, from time to time, any real property which the Board
18 of Juvenile Affairs shall determine advisable to more fully carry
19 into effect the operation of the Office of Juvenile Affairs in
20 accordance with applicable state statutes. All such leases for real
21 property shall be subject to the provisions of Section 63 of Title
22 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
- 23 12. Purchase or lease any equipment, supplies or materials
24 pursuant to The Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act;

1 13. Contract for professional services;

2 14. Acquire, construct, extend, and operate any and all
3 facilities of all kinds which in the judgment of the Executive
4 Director and the approval of the Legislature shall be necessary or
5 convenient to carry out the duties of the Office of Juvenile
6 Affairs, as authorized by law; and

7 15. Effective November 1, 2012, establish a system of
8 certification in accordance with the Oklahoma Child Care Facilities
9 Licensing Act for the shelters managed and operated by the
10 Department of Human Services pursuant to Section 1-9-111 of this
11 title; and

12 16. Exercise all incidental powers which are necessary and
13 proper to implement and administer the purposes of the Oklahoma
14 Juvenile Code.

15 E. The Office of Juvenile Affairs shall maintain a fair, simple
16 and expeditious system for resolution of grievances of all persons
17 committed to the Office of Juvenile Affairs regarding the substance
18 or application of any written or unwritten policy, rule of the Board
19 of Juvenile Affairs or of an agent or contractor of the Office of
20 Juvenile Affairs or any decision, behavior or action by an employee,
21 agent or contractor or by any other person committed to the Office
22 of Juvenile Affairs.

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

53-2-8029 SDR 01/17/12