ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 455

By: Anderson, Ivester and Jolley of the Senate

and

Grau of the House

An Act relating to jury panels; amending 38 O.S. 2011, Section 20.1, which relates to oath or affirmation; modifying language of certain oath; modifying procedures for maintenance of certain oath; authorizing certain oath to be taken and signed by electronic method; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 38 O.S. 2011, Section 20.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 20.1. A. Each member of the general jury panel, when reporting for duty as provided for in Section 20 of ~~Title 38 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title, shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation which shall be in substantially the following form:

OATH

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Oklahoma, County of _____. I further swear or affirm that I am eighteen years of age or older.

I further swear or affirm that I have not been convicted of a felony for which a period of time equal to the original judgment and sentence has not expired, or for which I have not been pardoned. I further swear or affirm that I am not now adjudicated as being mentally incompetent and that I ~~am not mentally retarded~~ do not otherwise have a mental condition which makes me incapable of performing jury service.

I state under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Oklahoma that the foregoing is true and correct.

_____

(Signature or mark of general jury panel member)

_____ _____

~~(Signature of court clerk) (Date)~~

B. The oath or affirmation provided for in subsection A of this section shall be ~~administered by the chief judge of the district court or, during his absence or disability, by some other judge assigned to the district court in the county, and once subscribed to, shall be~~ maintained in the office of the court clerk as a judicial record.

C. The oath or affirmation required by this section may be taken and signed using an electronic method provided by the court for such purposes, either through the court's website or otherwise, and may be maintained by the court clerk in electronic format.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

Passed the Senate the 27th day of February, 2013.

_____
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives