HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 3011 By: Roberts (Sean)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to adoption; creating the Task Force on Adoption Reform; providing termination date; providing for membership; establishing appointment deadline; directing how vacancies should be filled; requiring organizational meeting; providing for selection of officers; providing for quorum; authorizing Task Force to meet as necessary; requiring compliance with certain acts; prohibiting travel reimbursement; providing for staff assistance; requiring submission of final report by a certain date; providing for noncodification; and providing an effective date.

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

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

A. There is hereby created until January 1, 2016, the "Task Force on Adoption Reform".

B. The Task Force shall consist of nine (9) members as follows:

1. The Director of the Department of Human Services, or designee;

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

2. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives as follows:

a. an attorney who practices adoption law,

b. an employee of a child-placing agency licensed and authorized to place minors for adoption,

c. a member of an Indian tribe who is involved in Indian child adoptions, and

d. a member of the public interested in adoption issues; and

3. Four members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate as follows:

a. an attorney who practices adoption law,

b. an employee of a child-placing agency licensed and authorized to place minors for adoption,

c. a member of an Indian tribe who is involved in Indian child adoptions, and

d. a member of the public interested in adoption issues.

C. Appointments to the Task Force shall be made by December 1, 2014. Members of the Task Force shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Vacancies in a position shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

D. The Task Force shall conduct an organizational meeting not later than December 31, 2014. The Task Force shall elect a chair and cochair at the organizational meeting. A majority of the

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members present at the organizational meeting or any subsequent meeting shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of any action taken including the preparation and approval of the final report required by subsection I of this section.

E. The Task Force shall be authorized to meet as necessary in order to perform the duties imposed upon it.

F. The Task Force shall be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

G. Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation and shall not be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

H. Staff assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the staff of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate.

I. The Task Force shall produce a final written report of its findings and any recommendations regarding the adoption process in Oklahoma. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives not later than December 31, 2015.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2014.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON STATES' RIGHTS, dated 02/26/2014 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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