

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

3 HOUSE BILL 3248

By: Scott

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the death penalty; creating the
8 Oklahoma Death Penalty Review Task Force; stating
9 purpose of task force; providing for membership;
10 providing for appointment of chair and vice-chair;
11 providing for administrative support; providing for
12 travel reimbursement; requiring certain report to
13 Governor and Legislature; providing for
14 noncodification; and providing an effective date.

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

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

18 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Death Penalty Review
19 Task Force to continue until November 1, 2015. The task force shall
20 study and review:

21 1. The existing death penalty statutes and court rules to
22 determine the uniformity of decision making by prosecuting attorneys
23 in terms of charging defendants with first degree murder and the
24 criteria used in such decisions;

1 2. The administration of Oklahoma's death penalty law since its
2 enactment and determine whether it is applied randomly or
3 arbitrarily;

4 3. The costs associated with capital punishment trials and
5 appeals; and

6 4. Whether there are revisions to existing statutes and court
7 rules that, if implemented, would decrease the likelihood of an
8 inappropriate imposition of the death penalty.

9 B. The Oklahoma Death Penalty Review Task Force shall be
10 composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

11 1. The Governor, or a designee;

12 2. The Attorney General, or a designee;

13 3. The Executive Coordinator of the District Attorneys Council,
14 or a designee;

15 4. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense
16 System, or a designee;

17 5. The Director of the Department of Corrections, or a
18 designee;

19 6. Two criminal defense attorneys that specialize in death
20 penalty cases who shall be members of the Oklahoma Bar Association
21 and who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of
22 Representatives;

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1 7. Two members representing families of murder victims who
2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of
3 Representatives;

4 8. Two members representing families of person serving on death
5 row who shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
6 Oklahoma State Senate;

7 9. One legislative member of the Oklahoma House of
8 Representatives who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
9 Oklahoma House of Representatives; and

10 10. One legislative member of the Oklahoma State Senate who
11 shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma
12 State Senate.

13 C. The task force members shall each serve according to their
14 respective office or, if appointed, at the pleasure of the
15 appointing authority. Each member shall be a voting member of the
16 task force. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum
17 for the purpose of conducting business and meetings. Task force
18 meetings shall be held at the call of the chair. The task force
19 chair shall be the legislative member appointed by the Speaker of
20 the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the vice-chair shall be
21 the legislative member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
22 Oklahoma State Senate. Administrative support shall be provided by
23 the staffs of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma
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1 State Senate. All participating state agencies shall provide any
2 administrative support requested by the task force.

3 D. Members shall not be compensated for their service on the
4 task force but shall be reimbursed by their appointing authorities
5 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
6 duties. Legislative members shall be reimbursed in accordance with
7 the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
8 Nonlegislative members shall be reimbursed by their respective
9 agencies in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel
10 Reimbursement Act. Members who are not legislators or officers or
11 employees of the state shall be reimbursed by their appointing
12 authorities in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel
13 Reimbursement Act.

14 E. At the conclusion of the study, the task force shall prepare
15 a final report to be filed with the Governor, the Speaker of the
16 Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of
17 the Oklahoma State Senate by November 1, 2015.

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

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20 54-2-9033 GRS 01/03/14

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