

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1377

By: Watson

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission; creating the Twenty-first Century Corporation Commission Task Force; establishing membership appointment authority; stating mission of Task Force; requiring organizational meeting and requiring certain organizational selections; establishing authority related to quorum; exempting from Open Meeting Act; requiring certain notice; authorizing requests for certain assistance; requiring certain assistance; requiring certain report by certain date; requiring service without compensation; providing for Task Force termination; 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 to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 850 of Title 17, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the "Twenty-first Century Corporation Commission Task Force".

1 B. The Task Force shall consist of eleven (11) members as
2 follows:

3 1. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House
4 of Representatives as follows:

5 a. two appointments shall be members of the Oklahoma
6 House of Representatives,

7 b. one appointment shall be a representative of the oil
8 and gas industry, and

9 c. one appointment shall be a representative of the
10 utility industry;

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

13 a. two appointments shall be members of the Oklahoma
14 State Senate,

15 b. one appointment shall be a representative of the
16 telecommunications industry, and

17 c. one appointment shall be a representative of the
18 transportation industry; and

19 3. Three members appointed by the Director of the Oklahoma
20 Corporation Commission.

21 C. The Task Force shall study current regulation to determine
22 if the Oklahoma Corporation Commission is properly structured to
23 efficiently operate in the twenty-first century. Such study shall
24

1 include but not be limited to an assessment of the Oklahoma
2 Corporation Commission related to the following issues:

3 1. A performance assessment, determining:

- 4 a. current workload levels,
- 5 b. time required to process workload, and
- 6 c. reputation of agency among stakeholders;

7 2. A structural assessment, determining:

- 8 a. the makeup of the Commission and the impact of the
- 9 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act requirements,
- 10 b. trends related to terms of office,
- 11 c. the appropriateness of the current number of
- 12 Commissioners, and
- 13 d. the effectiveness of leadership and authority;

14 3. An assessment of the stated mission, determining;

- 15 a. accuracy in light of modern day agency functions,
- 16 b. appropriateness and necessity, and
- 17 c. if performance of certain functions are better suited
- 18 in other agencies;

19 4. A funding assessment, determining:

- 20 a. whether the agency is properly funded,
- 21 b. the current funding mechanisms available, and
- 22 c. funding gaps within individual programs; and

23 5. A staffing assessment, determining:

- 24 a. if the agency is properly staffed to meet its mission,

- 1 b. if the staffing structure of the agency is efficient,
2 and
3 c. if the staff has the autonomy needed to perform their
4 duties.

5 D. The Task Force shall hold an organizational meeting not
6 later than December 1, 2017. The Task Force shall select from its
7 membership a chair and vice chair.

8 E. The Task Force may conduct business without a quorum of its
9 membership being present, but a quorum shall be required to be
10 present for purposes of adoption of the final report of the Task
11 Force.

12 F. The Task Force shall not be subject to the Oklahoma Open
13 Meeting Act but shall cause notice of its meeting to be posted
14 through the website of both the Oklahoma House of Representatives
15 and the Oklahoma State Senate at least ten (10) days prior to its
16 meetings.

17 G. The Task Force may request the assistance of any state
18 agency, board, commission, department or other entity of state
19 government to acquire relevant information for purposes of the
20 study. Staff assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the
21 Oklahoma House of Representatives, the Oklahoma State Senate, and
22 the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

23 H. The Task Force shall develop a final report and transmit the
24 report not later than December 1, 2018, to the Governor, the Speaker

1 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro
2 Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate.

3 I. Each member of the Task Force shall serve without
4 compensation.

5 J. The Task Force shall terminate effective the day following
6 the transmission of the report required by subsection H of this
7 section.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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