

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 1581

By: Floyd and Griffin of the
Senate

3 and

4 Osborn (Leslie) of the
5 House

6
7 An Act relating to state employees benefits; amending
8 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-2.23, which relates to
9 state leave sharing program eligibility; expanding
10 purpose of program; modifying circumstances for which
11 certain leave hours may be granted; adding
12 definition; establishing rules and regulations for
13 donation of leave hours to leave bank; directing
14 certain entity to develop procedure for leave bank
15 donations; specifying application process for leave
16 bank hours; directing certain entity to develop
17 application procedure for shared leave; modifying
18 eligibility requirements for shared leave; removing
19 certain restrictions on the donation of shared leave;
20 removing certain requirements for receiving shared
21 leave; modifying person responsible for granting
22 shared leave; removing certain restrictions on unused
23 donated leave; specifying time restrictions on use of
24 shared leave; specifying leave bank hour eligibility
for certain persons; authorizing leave bank hours for
employees working certain modified schedules;
specifying terms of awarding leave bank hours;
establishing procedures for leave bank hours after
termination or death of an employee; and providing an
effective date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-2.23, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 Section 840-2.23. A. There is hereby created the state ~~leave~~
2 ~~sharing~~ Leave of Last Resort program which will serve as the leave
3 sharing program for state employees. The purpose of the state leave
4 sharing program is to permit state employees ~~to donate~~ who have
5 exhausted annual and sick leave to receive paid Leave of Last Resort
6 through donated annual or sick leave ~~to a~~ from a fellow state
7 employee ~~who has exhausted, or will exhaust, all types of paid leave~~
8 ~~and~~ when the receiving employee:

9 1. ~~Who is~~ Is eligible for and requires family leave pursuant to
10 the provisions of the Family and Leave Medical Act of 1993, 29
11 U.S.C., 2601 et seq.; or

12 2. ~~Who is~~ Is suffering from or has a relative ~~or household~~
13 ~~member~~ suffering from an extraordinary or severe illness, injury,
14 impairment, or physical or mental condition which has caused or is
15 likely to cause the employee to take leave without pay or terminate
16 employment;

17 3. ~~Immediately~~ Requires leave immediately after the death of a
18 relative ~~or household member~~, provided that the total leave received
19 for this purpose shall not exceed five (5) days in any calendar
20 year; or

21 4. ~~Who is~~ Is affected by a presidentially declared national
22 disaster in Oklahoma after May 1, 1999, for a period of eighteen
23 (18) months after the date of the presidentially declared national
24 disaster if:

- 1 a. the employee suffered a physical injury as a result of
2 the disaster,
3 b. the spouse, or relative, ~~or household member~~ of the
4 employee suffered a physical injury or died as a
5 result of the disaster, ~~or~~
6 c. the domicile of the employee or the home of a relative
7 of the employee was damaged or destroyed as a result
8 of the disaster; or

9 5. Experiences a qualifying emergency where the employee's
10 spouse, son, daughter, parent, stepparent, stepchild, grandchild,
11 grandparent, sibling, niece or nephew is a military member in the
12 Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves on covered
13 active duty, or who has been notified of an impending call or order
14 to covered active duty. The receiving employee may use up to
15 twenty-six (26) work weeks of leave consisting of unpaid leave, and
16 when requested and appropriate, accrued sick and/or annual leave
17 during a single rolling twelve (12) month period measured forward
18 from the date a military caregiver is used to:

- 19 a. care for a covered service member, who is a current
20 member of the Armed Forces, including the National
21 Guard or Reserves, and who is the spouse, son,
22 daughter, parent, stepparent, stepchild, grandchild,
23 grandparent, sibling, niece or nephew of the employee,
24 with a qualifying serious injury or illness, or

1 b. care for a covered veteran with a qualifying serious
2 injury or illness who is the spouse, son, daughter,
3 parent, stepparent, stepchild, grandchild,
4 grandparent, sibling, niece or nephew of the employee.

5 B. As used in this section:

6 1. "Relative of the employee" shall be limited to the spouse,
7 child, stepchild, grandchild, grandparent, stepparent, ~~or~~ parent,
8 sibling, niece or nephew of the employee;

9 2. ~~"Household members" means those persons who reside in the~~
10 ~~same home, who have reciprocal duties to and do provide financial~~
11 ~~support for one another. This term shall include foster children~~
12 ~~and legal wards even if they do not live in the household. The term~~
13 ~~does not include persons sharing the same general house, when the~~
14 ~~living style is primarily that of a dormitory or commune;~~

15 3. "Severe" or "extraordinary" means extreme or life
16 threatening;

17 4. 3. "State employee" means a permanent classified employee or
18 a regular unclassified employee with one (1) year or more continuous
19 service with the state. The term "state employee" does not include
20 classified employees in probationary status or unclassified
21 employees on temporary or other limited term appointments, except
22 that those employees are eligible to receive shared leave as
23 provided in paragraph 4 of subsection A of this section and the
24

1 leave with pay authorized by Section 840-2.23A of this title related
2 to a presidentially declared national disaster; ~~and~~

3 ~~5.~~ 4. "Terminal" means likely to result in death within two (2)
4 calendar years; and

5 5. "Leave bank" means the voluntary leave bank, administered by
6 the Human Capital Management Division of the Office of Management
7 and Enterprise Services, consisting of accrued annual and sick leave
8 donated by state employees and awarded to eligible qualifying
9 regular and part-time employees who are members of the leave bank.

10 All leave bank members who qualify for leave pursuant to the Family
11 and Medical Leave Act may request donations from the leave bank.

12 The accrued sick and annual time of those employees requesting leave
13 bank hours must be exhausted, except for those requesting leave bank
14 hours for parenting reasons. Those requesting leave to parent new
15 children must only exhaust their accrued annual hours, not accrued
16 sick hours, before requesting leave bank hours. Requests will be
17 reviewed and acted upon by the Human Capital Management Division of
18 the Office of Management and Enterprise Services. As long as
19 criteria are met and the leave bank is not empty, hours will be
20 awarded, not to exceed four hundred eighty (480) per employee, based
21 on medical need.

22 C. Donations to the leave bank may only be made from accrued
23 sick or annual hours. A minimum donation of accrued leave is
24 required for an employee to become a member of the leave bank. All

1 donations are strictly voluntary. Donated hours cannot be returned
2 to the donor. Following an open enrollment period of twelve (12)
3 months after the effective date of this act, donations will be
4 requested through the annual Benefit Open Enrollment Period, and
5 additionally throughout the year if needed.

6 1. Each member must complete a form verifying his or her
7 willingness to join the program on a voluntary basis. Membership
8 will continue until a member is no longer employed by the state,
9 retires or fails to renew membership.

10 2. Membership in the leave bank does not rollover. Employees
11 must renew their membership each year that they want to participate.
12 An employee who fails to become a member during the Benefit Open
13 Enrollment Period may become a member during the next open
14 enrollment period. Leave bank hours will be available to employees
15 beginning in January, following the Benefit Open Enrollment Period.

16 The Human Capital Management Division of the Office of
17 Management and Enterprise Services shall develop a procedure to
18 establish the donation process and define minimum donation
19 requirements.

20 D. 1. Employees shall request leave in writing. An employee
21 who intends to take family or medical leave shall submit a request
22 to their Director at least thirty (30) days before the first day of
23 leave. The request must state the reason for the leave, the
24 duration of the leave and the starting and ending dates of the

1 leave. When it is not practicable under the circumstances to
2 provide thirty (30) days advance notice, the employee must give
3 notice to their Director as soon as possible, but no later than two
4 (2) business days after the employee learns of the need for the
5 leave. Hours will not be awarded on a retroactive basis.

6 2. When a Director receives such a request, he or she should
7 ensure the employee has written information about the leave bank. A
8 Director may require satisfactory proof of the proper use of medical
9 leave and may disallow medical leave in the absence of such proof.

10 3. The Human Capital Management Division of the Office of
11 Management and Enterprise Services will develop a procedure and
12 application process so that members of the leave bank can meet with
13 their department Family and Medical Leave Act coordinator to apply
14 for donations from the leave bank program.

15 E. An employee ~~may~~ shall be eligible to receive shared leave
16 pursuant to the following conditions:

17 1. The ~~chief administrative officer of the employee~~ Human
18 Capital Management Division of the Office of Management and
19 Enterprise Services determines that the employee meets the criteria
20 described in this section; ~~and~~

21 2. The employee has abided by state policies regarding the use
22 of leave; and

23 3. The leave bank has donated hours available.

24

1 ~~D. An employee may not donate annual or sick leave to an~~
2 ~~eligible employee without the permission of the chief administrative~~
3 ~~officer of the donating employee's agency.~~

4 ~~E. An employee may donate annual or sick leave to another~~
5 ~~employee provided the donation does not cause the annual leave~~
6 ~~balance of the employee to fall below eighty (80) hours and provided~~
7 ~~the donation does not cause the sick leave balance of the employee~~
8 ~~to fall below eighty (80) hours.~~

9 ~~F. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, the~~
10 ~~chief administrative officer of the employee shall determine the~~
11 ~~amount of donated leave an employee may receive and may authorize an~~
12 ~~employee to use up to a maximum of two hundred sixty-one (261) days~~
13 ~~of donated leave during total state employment. If the employee is~~
14 ~~suffering from an illness which has been certified in writing by a~~
15 ~~licensed physician or health care practitioner as being terminal and~~
16 ~~the employee who either has reached or shall reach in the near~~
17 ~~future the maximum amount as set out in this subsection, the chief~~
18 ~~administrative officer of the employee may approve additional~~
19 ~~donated leave upon written request of the employee.~~

20 ~~G. The chief administrative officer of the employee shall~~
21 ~~require the employee to submit, prior to approval or disapproval of~~
22 ~~shared leave pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection A of this~~
23 ~~section, a medical certificate from a licensed physician or health~~
24 ~~care practitioner verifying the need for the leave and expected~~

~~duration of the illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition for which the leave is donated.~~

~~H. Donated annual~~

F. Annual or sick leave donated to the leave bank is transferable between employees in different state entities ~~with the agreement of both chief administrative officers of the entities.~~

~~I. Donated annual~~

G. Annual or sick leave donated to the leave bank is transferable between employees on an hour-to-hour basis irrespective of the hourly wage of the donating or receiving employee.

~~J.~~ H. Any donated leave may only be used by the recipient for the purposes specified in this section.

~~K. All forms of paid leave available for use by the recipient must be used prior to using donated leave.~~

~~L. Any donated leave not used by the recipient during each occurrence as determined by the chief administrative officer of the employee shall be returned to the donor. The donated leave remaining will be divided among the donors on a prorated basis based on the original donated value and returned at its original donor value and reinstated to the original leave balance of each donor.~~

~~M.~~ I. All donated leave must be given voluntarily. No employee shall be coerced, threatened, intimidated, or financially induced into donating annual or sick leave for purposes of the leave sharing program.

1 ~~N. Employees may not donate excess annual or sick leave that~~
2 ~~the donor would not be able to otherwise take.~~

3 J. The Human Capital Management Division of the Office of
4 Management and Enterprise Services will review and evaluate the
5 applications to determine the number of leave bank hours, if any, to
6 be awarded. Except as noted above, members must exhaust their own
7 accrued sick and annual time balances and have a qualifying
8 condition or event pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act
9 prior to any award of leave bank hours. Members may be awarded up
10 to four hundred eighty (480) leave bank hours. Leave bank hours
11 must be taken within the Family and Medical Leave Act period
12 associated with the qualifying condition or event.

13 1. Members that are eligible for and have not exhausted Workers
14 Compensation benefits, or any other paid benefits are not eligible
15 to be awarded leave bank hours.

16 2. Leave bank hours for new parents are available to mothers
17 and fathers for the birth of the child and the placement of a child
18 with the employee for adoption or foster care.

19 3. Employees qualifying for the Family and Medical Leave Act
20 whose chief administrative officers have agreed to intermittent or
21 reduced schedules within Family and Medical Leave Act rules may use
22 leave bank hours in addition to working hours to receive full-time
23 pay.

K. The ability to award donated hours from the leave bank is dependent upon available hours voluntarily donated by employees. Hours awarded are proportionate to the member's budgeted work week. Leave accrual and other benefits continue while using leave bank hours.

If a member who receives donations terminates employment with the state before the donations are exhausted, any unused donated leave balance will be returned to the leave bank. Members leaving employment with the state are not entitled to payment of awarded, but unused leave bank hours. The estate of a deceased employee is not entitled to payment of unused leave bank hours.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.

Passed the Senate the 15th day of March, 2018.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2018.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives