

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 165

By: Newberry of the Senate

3 and

4 Mulready of the House

5
6 An Act relating to county sheriffs; amending 19 O.S.
7 2011, Section 527, which relates to employment of
8 general counsel; authorizing a county sheriff to
9 employ outside counsel under certain circumstances;
10 providing for termination of counsel employment under
11 certain circumstances; and declaring an emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 527, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 527. A. The sheriff, treasurer or assessor in a county
16 shall have the authority to employ a general counsel, either in-
17 house as a staff attorney or through an outside law firm, to advise
18 or represent that officer and his or her office in the performance
19 of the official duties of that office. The Board of County
20 Commissioners shall approve all contracts for outside counsel. A
21 general counsel employed pursuant to this section shall be
22 compensated from the funds of the employing county office.

23 B. The sheriff may employ outside counsel pursuant to this
24 section to provide immediate representation in a deputy-involved

1 shooting; provided, such employment shall not continue if the deputy
2 involved is charged with any crime arising from the shooting.

3 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
4 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
5 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
6 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

7 Passed the Senate the 20th day of March, 2017.

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10 Presiding Officer of the Senate

11 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
12 2017.

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15 Presiding Officer of the House
16 of Representatives
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