

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 HOUSE BILL 1861

By: Osborn (Leslie) of the
House

5
6 and

7 Griffin of the Senate

8
9 AS INTRODUCED

10 **[rehabilitation services - placing certain**
11 **requirements on use of funds for services to older**
12 **individuals that are blind - effective date -**
13 **emergency]**

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 166.7, as
19 amended by Section 839, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (74 O.S. Supp.
20 2016, Section 166.7), is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 166.7 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury
22 a revolving fund for the Commission on Rehabilitation Services, to
23 be designated the "Rehabilitation Services Disbursing Fund" provided
24 that the fund may be designated by fiscal year designations as the

1 Commission may determine. The fund shall be a continuing fund, not
2 subject to fiscal year limitations. The fund shall consist of
3 receipts from the federal government, monies appropriated to the
4 Department of Rehabilitation Services by the State Legislature, and
5 other receipts of the Department of Rehabilitation Services as shall
6 be directed by the Commission for Rehabilitation Services. All
7 monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated
8 and may be budgeted and expended by the Commission for
9 Rehabilitation Services as may be necessary in order to carry out
10 the duties imposed upon the said Commission by law. Expenditures
11 from the Rehabilitation Services Disbursing Fund shall be made upon
12 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
13 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
14 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

15 B. The Department of Rehabilitation Services shall direct all
16 federal and state funds received and appropriated for services to
17 Older Individuals that are Blind (OIB) to qualified community-based
18 nonprofit organizations accredited by the National Accreditation
19 Council for Blind and Low Vision to administer, pursuant to
20 contract, the wide array of services for older individuals with
21 vision impairments including, but not limited to, assisting in
22 correcting or modifying visual disabilities with optical vision
23 aids, in-home training, Orientation & Mobility, Braille instruction,
24 adaptive skills training, information and referral, peer counseling,

1 and other appropriate services designed to assist an older
2 individual who is blind with daily living activities.

3 C. Funds received by the Commission for OIB Rehabilitation
4 Services from the Federal Rehabilitation Services Administration as
5 well as the state matching funds shall, in their entirety, be used
6 to fund the Older Independent Blind program as established in the
7 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

8 D. Services provided by qualified Older Independent Blind
9 contractors are dependent upon budget parameters and staffing.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

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

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16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
17 03/02/2017 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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