1	SENATE FLOOR VERSION
2	February 8, 2017 AS AMENDED
3	SENATE BILL NO. 232 By: Simpson
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6	[soldiers and sailors - State Accrediting Agency and the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs -
7	transfer of employees - vocational rehabilitation of disabled veterans - repealer - codification -
8	noncodification - effective date - emergency]
9	emergency]
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1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
L2	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
L3	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 241-A of Title 72, unless there
L 4	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
L5	A. The State Accrediting Agency is hereby consolidated with the
L 6	Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. Any reference in Oklahoma
L7	Statutes or in Article XXVIII of the Oklahoma Constitution to the
18	State Accrediting Agency shall be deemed to be a reference to the
L 9	Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs unless otherwise required by
20	the context of the reference.
21	B. All assets, funds, liabilities, allotments, purchase orders,
22	outstanding financial obligations, encumbrances, records, equipment
23	and other property of the State Accrediting Agency are hereby

transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

- C. Personnel employed by the State Accrediting Agency on July
 1, 2017, shall be transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
 3 Affairs.
 - D. The classified and unclassified employees who are transferred pursuant to this section shall be subject to the following provisions:

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- 1. Classified employees shall remain subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration, as provided in the Oklahoma Personnel Act;
- 2. Unclassified employees transferred to the Oklahoma

 Department of Veterans Affairs shall remain in the unclassified service and shall serve at the pleasure of the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs;
- 3. All employees who are transferred pursuant to this act shall retain leave, sick and annual time earned and any retirement and longevity benefits which have accrued during their employment with the state. The salaries of employees who are transferred shall not be reduced as a direct and immediate result of the transfer; and
- 4. If the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs should implement a reduction in force, all employees transferred pursuant to this act shall be credited for the time they were employed by the State Accrediting Agency.
- 23 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

1 The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall serve as transition coordinator and shall establish a 2 3 transition team to coordinate the orderly transfer of duties, personnel, property, funds and encumbrances from and consolidation 4 5 of the State Accrediting Agency to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. 6 SECTION 3. 72 O.S. 2011, Section 63.8, as 7 AMENDATORY amended by Section 6, Chapter 212, O.S.L. 2014 (72 O.S. Supp. 2016, 9 Section 63.8), is amended to read as follows: 10 Section 63.8. The Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall have the authority to administer the affairs of the Department of Veterans 11 12 Affairs, and to enter into agreements with the State Department of Rehabilitation Services for the vocational rehabilitation of 13 disabled veterans in the Oklahoma State Veterans Centers. The 14 15 Commission shall act as the funding agency for the State Accrediting 16 Agency and provide office space for the staff of the agency. The State Accrediting Agency shall pay to the Commission their pro rata 17 share of utilities and telephone service. 18 SECTION 4. REPEALER 72 O.S. 2011, Sections 241, as 19 amended by Section 1, Chapter 297, O.S.L. 2013 (72 O.S. Supp. 2016, 20 Section 241) and 242 are hereby repealed. 21 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017. 2.2 SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation 23

of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

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1	declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2	be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
3	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS February 8, 2017 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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