

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

SENATE BILL 204

By: Daniels

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to district courts; amending 20 O.S. 2011, Section 128, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 335, O.S.L. 2014 (20 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 128), which relates to juvenile court case managers; updating authorization for certain employment; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 128, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 335, O.S.L. 2014 (20 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 128), is amended to read as follows:

Section 128. A. Juvenile court case managers may be appointed in any county pursuant to subsection C of this section.

B. The duties of the juvenile court case managers shall be:

1. To assist judges with juvenile docket responsibilities in the appointing county by ensuring that juvenile cases proceed through the court process in a timely and effective manner by accurately tracking cases, ensuring consistent data entry,

1 conducting review of open cases and monitoring open case reports to
2 ensure compliance with all federal and state statutory requirements;

3 2. To increase the amount of information available to the court
4 for its consideration by acting as liaison between parties,
5 attorneys and other professionals and the judges;

6 3. To encourage accountability and communication among
7 professionals, parties, participants and attorneys; and

8 4. To perform any other duties necessary to assist the court in
9 carrying out its judicial functions under Title 10A of the Oklahoma
10 Statutes.

11 C. Juvenile court case managers shall be selected by the chief
12 of the juvenile division of the district court subject to the
13 approval of the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.
14 Juvenile court case managers shall serve at the pleasure of the
15 chief of the juvenile division.

16 D. To be eligible for appointment as a juvenile court case
17 manager, a person shall possess at least one of the following
18 minimum qualifications:

19 1. Be an attorney licensed to practice law in this state with
20 at least two (2) years' experience in juvenile or family law; or

21 2. Hold a bachelor's degree in the social sciences or related
22 field from an accredited college or university and three (3) years'
23 experience working with court procedures, juvenile law or social
24

1 work. A master's degree in social sciences may substitute for one
2 (1) year of the required experience.

3 E. Each juvenile court case manager shall be a full-time or
4 part-time state employee and receive a salary to be determined by
5 the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court to be paid from the
6 State Judicial Fund.

7 F. The juvenile divisions of the district courts located in two
8 or more adjoining counties may enter into an agreement to employ a
9 single juvenile court case manager to serve the needs of the
10 juvenile court judges in those counties. Such juvenile court case
11 manager shall be employed and serve in the same manner as those
12 employed for individual counties.

13 G. In the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2014~~ 2017, the Oklahoma
14 Supreme Court is authorized to employ up to ten full-time juvenile
15 court case managers. Five shall be in Oklahoma County, four shall
16 be in Tulsa County and one shall be in Washington County.

17 H. In the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, in addition to
18 the juvenile court case managers authorized in subsection G of this
19 section, the Oklahoma Supreme Court is authorized to employ up to
20 five full-time juvenile court case managers. One shall be in
21 Canadian County, one shall be in Cleveland County, one shall be in
22 Comanche County, one shall be in Creek County and one shall be in
23 Pottawatomie, Lincoln and Seminole Counties, respectively.

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

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

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