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February 26, 2019

By: Simpson

An Act relating to employment of blind persons; amending 7 O.S. 2011, Section 71, which relates to activities to promote employment; granting the Department of Rehabilitation Services immunity from liability for certain damages; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 7 O.S. 2011, Section 71, is amended to read as follows:

Section 71. A. For purposes of assisting blind persons to become self-supporting, the State Department of Rehabilitation Services is hereby authorized to carry on activities to promote business opportunities for individuals who are blind, including, but not limited to, the licensing and establishment of such persons as operators of vending facilities in public and other buildings. Facilities shall maximize job opportunities for other persons who are blind.

B. The Department shall be the sole state licensing agency for the purpose of implementing and carrying out the provisions of the Act of Congress known as the Randolph-Sheppard Act (20 USCA Sections

1 107-107f), and amendments thereto, providing for the licensing of
2 individuals who are blind to operate vending facilities in federal
3 buildings, or any other Acts of Congress which may be hereafter
4 enacted. Provided, that no game of chance or gambling machine shall
5 be operated. The Department shall be immune from liability for
6 monetary damages to licensed individuals or their subcontractors.
7 The Division of Visual Services of the Department shall administer
8 this program.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

10 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
11 February 26, 2019 - DO PASS
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