

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 1921

By: Fincher

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to virtual presence; creating the Oklahomans Virtually Everywhere Act of 2019; defining terms; directing agencies to develop certain proposals; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 36.1 of Title 62, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahomans Virtually Everywhere Act of 2019". The Oklahomans Virtually Everywhere Act creates a statewide initiative that allows Oklahomans to provide their expertise throughout the world without leaving their community and by Oklahoma becoming the leader in virtual presence.

B. For purposes of this section:

1. "Virtual presence" means the ability of people who are not physically present with each other to collaborate and interact with

1 others in meetings, conferences, office work and other contexts as
2 though they were physically present; and

3 2. "Ideal virtual presence" means that the interactions between
4 individuals and groups virtually present in meetings, conferences,
5 office work and other social contexts are indistinguishable between
6 those who are physically present and those who are not.

7 C. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, State Board
8 of Career and Technology Education, Department of Commerce and
9 Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall create a research
10 and development proposal to make Oklahoma a leader in virtual
11 presence. The proposal shall include a proposed budget and be
12 prepared for the legislative session following the effective date of
13 this act. The proposal shall be created in consultation with
14 businesses and state agencies. The proposal shall include a
15 strategy for training Oklahoma organizations to use existing
16 technology for virtual presence.

17 D. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall work
18 with boards, commissions, and agencies to develop virtual presence
19 capabilities for state employees. The Office shall conduct open
20 meetings with state employees and interested Oklahomans to help
21 guide the plans.

22 E. The Department of Commerce shall develop a marketing plan
23 for virtual presence as a way for business in and out of Oklahoma to
24 use the virtual presence expertise of Oklahomans.

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

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