

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

HOUSE BILL 2839

By: Gann

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to sunset; amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 521.1, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 429, O.S.L. 2019 (57 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 521.1), which relates to the Reentry Policy Council; re-creating the Council; and modifying termination date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 521.1, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 429, O.S.L. 2019 (57 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 521.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 521.1 A. ~~Upon November 1, 2007, a~~ The Reentry Policy Council shall be ~~created~~ re-created, and shall continue until July 1, ~~2020~~ 2026, pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law, for the purpose of providing oversight of the reentry policies and programs operated by the Department of Corrections. The Council shall consist of eleven (11) members and shall be appointed as follows:

1. Three members shall be appointed by the Governor as follows:

a. one member shall be a law enforcement officer,

1 b. one member shall be a corrections official, and

2 c. one member shall be a crime victim;

3 2. Four members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
4 Oklahoma House of Representatives as follows:

5 a. one member shall be a member of the Oklahoma House of
6 Representatives,

7 b. one member shall be a representative of a faith-based
8 organization involved with the reintegration of
9 inmates,

10 c. one member shall be a person who has been previously
11 convicted of a criminal offense in Oklahoma, and

12 d. one member shall be a mental health and substance
13 abuse official; and

14 3. Four members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore
15 of the Oklahoma State Senate as follows:

16 a. one member shall be a member of the Oklahoma State
17 Senate,

18 b. one member shall be a representative from a for-profit
19 ~~half-way~~ halfway house who specializes in
20 reintegration of inmates,

21 c. one member shall be a representative from a nonprofit
22 entity involved with the reintegration of inmates, and

23 d. one member shall be a district attorney, or his or her
24 designee.

1 B. The Council shall:

2 1. Review corrections policies, programs and procedures to
3 ensure that the primary purpose of each is public safety during
4 imprisonment and after release;

5 2. Identify gaps in reentry programs and services as well as
6 overlapping efforts, and recommend changes to address those issues;

7 3. Review policies to ensure that corrections facilities
8 recruit and welcome volunteers;

9 4. Review the licensing procedures within this state to
10 eliminate barriers to employment that are unrelated to the conduct
11 underlying the conviction; and

12 5. Report annually to the Legislature and the Governor on the
13 progress of the reentry initiative, including the impact on
14 recidivism, effectiveness of agency coordination and communications,
15 and the implementation of reentry plans and use of funding.

16 C. 1. Legislative members of the Council shall be reimbursed
17 for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of
18 their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the
19 Oklahoma Statutes from the legislative body in which they serve.

20 2. State agency employees who are members of the Council shall
21 be reimbursed for their travel expenses incurred in the performance
22 of their duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the
23 State Travel Reimbursement Act.
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1 3. All other Council members shall be reimbursed by the Office
2 of Management and Enterprise Services for travel expenses incurred
3 in the performance of their duties on the Council in accordance with
4 the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

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