

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL NO. 41

By: Shaw

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to criminal justice reform; creating a task force to study the sentencing throughout the criminal justice process in the state; providing expiration date; requiring certain report; setting duties; providing for membership; providing for naming of chair; providing for quorum; providing for frequency of meetings; subjecting meetings to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; providing that members receive no compensation or travel reimbursement; providing for staff support; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until December 31, 2020, a task force to oversee an assessment and analysis of existing laws, policies and practices relating to sentencing throughout the criminal justice process.

B. The task force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations by November 30, 2020, to the Governor, the President

1 Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

2 Representatives, which shall include, but not be limited to:

3 1. Recommendations on sentencing and sentence enhancements;

4 2. Recommendations designed to reduce recidivism and to  
5 increase success for those people under probation and parole  
6 supervision; and

7 3. Recommendations to improve access to reliable data to better  
8 inform policy and practice.

9 C. The task force shall be comprised of thirteen (13) members  
10 to be appointed as follows:

11 1. Four members appointed by the Governor as follows:

12 a. a member who is a representative of county government  
13 in a county with a population over three hundred  
14 thousand (300,000),

15 b. a member who is a representative of a chamber of  
16 commerce,

17 c. a member who is a mental health professional, and

18 d. a member representing law enforcement or the  
19 Department of Corrections;

20 2. Three members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
21 Senate as follows:

22 a. a member who is a currently elected member of the  
23 Senate,

24 b. a member who is a public defender, and  
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1 c. a member who is a representative of county government  
2 in a county with a population of less than three  
3 hundred thousand (300,000);

4 3. Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
5 Representatives as follows:

6 a. a member who is a currently elected member of the  
7 House of Representatives,

8 b. a member representing the District Attorneys Council,  
9 and

10 c. a member representing an organized group advocating  
11 for victims of crime;

12 4. The Administrative Director of the Court;

13 5. The Oklahoma Attorney General or designee; and

14 6. A district judge appointed by the Oklahoma Supreme Court  
15 Chief Justice.

16 The chair of the task force shall be selected by the Governor.

17 D. A quorum of the task force shall be required to approve any  
18 final action of the task force. For purposes of this section, seven  
19 members shall constitute a quorum.

20 E. The task force may meet as often as may be required in order  
21 to perform the duties imposed upon it. The chair shall call the  
22 first meeting and all subsequent meetings shall be made at the call  
23 of the chair.

1 F. The meetings of the task force shall be subject to the  
2 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

3 G. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation  
4 or travel reimbursement.

5 H. Staff support shall be provided by the Governor's office,  
6 the Senate and the House of Representatives.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

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

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