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March 29, 2022

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 3812

By: Stinson of the House

and

Stanley of the Senate

An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Sections 106.3B and 1503.1, which relate to court reporters; updating references; modifying process for temporary appointment; and removing certain continuing education requirement.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.3B, is amended to read as follows:

Section 106.3B Only the following persons may act and are eligible for appointment on a full-time or part-time basis as official court reporters for the courts, including the Workers' Compensation Court ~~Court~~ Commission, Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, and the Corporation Commission:

~~a. 1.~~ Persons now certified or hereafter certified by the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters shall be given primary consideration for appointment;

1 ~~b.~~ 2. Persons who, prior to July 1, 1978, were licensed as
2 licensed shorthand reporters by the State Board of Examiners of
3 Certified Shorthand Reporters shall be given secondary consideration
4 for appointment;

5 ~~e.~~ 3. Persons who, prior to July 1, 1978, were acting shorthand
6 reporters under a certificate issued by the Chief Justice;

7 ~~d.~~ 4. When no person eligible for appointment as an official
8 court reporter, as provided above, is available for appointment, a
9 presiding judge or a district judge may make application to the
10 Chief Justice to appoint a shorthand reporter on a temporary basis.
11 The candidate must file with the State Board of Examiners of
12 Certified Shorthand Reporters a properly completed application for a
13 temporary certificate, along with any other supporting documents or
14 information required by the Board, and shall pay the applicable
15 examination fee as set forth in the fee schedule issued by the Board
16 which shall be deposited with the Clerk of the Supreme Court. The
17 Board shall advise the Chief Justice if the applicant is recommended
18 for a temporary certificate. The Chief Justice may issue a
19 temporary certificate valid for not more than twelve (12) months,
20 ~~upon payment of a fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and a fee of~~
21 ~~Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) for the certified shorthand reporter~~
22 ~~examination which will be deposited with the Clerk of the Supreme~~
23 ~~Court.~~ The temporary certificate shall be nonrenewable, except in
24 emergency situations as determined by the Chief Justice ~~and for no~~

1 ~~longer than ninety (90) additional days.~~ Absent good cause shown as
2 determined by the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand
3 Reporters, a temporary certificate holder shall sit for at least one
4 Oklahoma certified shorthand reporter examination administered
5 during the term of the temporary certificate. The holder shall be
6 required to transcribe the examination, and the examination results
7 ~~of such transcription~~ shall be reported to the holder's supervisory
8 judge;

9 ~~e.~~ 5. The appointment of an official court reporter by a
10 district or presiding judge shall be subject to the approval of the
11 Chief Justice. Before giving his approval to the appointment, the
12 Chief Justice shall determine, with the aid of the Administrative
13 Director of the Courts, that the appointing judge has given proper
14 consideration to the statutory preference accorded herein to
15 certified and licensed reporters; and

16 ~~f.~~ 6. A temporary court reporter, either while so serving or
17 after the expiration of this appointment, shall be required to
18 transcribe any testimony and other proceedings taken by him and to
19 certify that the transcription is true and correct. A transcript
20 certified by a temporary court reporter shall have the same effect
21 as one certified by a regular court reporter.

22 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 1503.1, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24

1 Section 1503.1 A. Every certified shorthand reporter and every
2 court reporter temporarily employed by the district court, Workers'
3 Compensation ~~Court~~ Commission, Workers' Compensation Court of
4 Existing Claims, or Corporation Commission shall annually complete
5 at least four (4) hours of continuing education approved by the
6 State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. ~~Included~~
7 ~~in the four-hour minimum requirement for every official shorthand~~
8 ~~reporter and every court reporter temporarily employed by the~~
9 ~~district court, Workers' Compensation Court, or Corporation~~
10 ~~Commission at least one (1) hour shall relate to Oklahoma court~~
11 ~~rules and procedures. All four (4) hours of continuing education~~
12 ~~shall be approved by the State Board of Examiners of Certified~~
13 ~~Shorthand Reporters.~~

14 B. A certified shorthand reporter or court reporter is exempt
15 from the requirements of subsection A of this section if the
16 reporter verifies under oath to the State Board of Examiners of
17 Certified Shorthand Reporters that he or she:

18 1. Has attained the age of sixty-five (65) before or during the
19 calendar year for which the reporter seeks an exemption;

20 2. Is a member of the ~~armed forces~~ Armed Forces on full-time
21 active duty during the entire calendar year for which the reporter
22 seeks an exemption; or

23 3. Has provided written verification by a licensed physician
24 that a medical condition has prevented the court reporter from

1 working in such capacity and completing continuing education for the
2 calendar year for which the reporter seeks an exemption.

3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
4 March 29, 2022 - DO PASS
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