

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB3585 \_\_\_\_\_  
Of the printed Bill  
Page \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Lines \_\_\_\_\_  
Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

**AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS**

Amendment submitted by: Erick Harris

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reading Clerk

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

PROPOSED POLICY  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL 3585

By: Harris

PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to court reporters; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.4, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 100, O.S.L. 2023 (20 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 106.4), which relates to duties of court reporters; expanding means by which a court reporter can record; removing prohibition on certification of persons who rely exclusively upon a steno-mask; clarifying use of proceedings electronically recorded when no court reporter is available; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.9, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 263, O.S.L. 2023 (20 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 106.9), which relates to court reporter compensation; adding certifications to additional compensation payments; removing certain continuing education requirement; authorizing Supreme Court to direct continuing education requirements; suspending additional compensation payment if there is a lapse in certification; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section 1503, which relates to examination of court reporters; changing methods for which a certification can be issued; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.4, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 100, O.S.L. 2023 (20 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 106.4), is amended to read as follows:

1       Section 106.4. A. 1. The court reporter shall make a full  
2 reporting by means of ~~stenographic hand, steno-mask~~ stenomask or,  
3 stenographic machine notes, or any other method of reporting  
4 authorized by the Supreme Court, or a combination thereof, of all  
5 proceedings, including the statements of counsel and the court and  
6 the evidence, in trials and other judicial proceedings to which the  
7 court reporter is assigned by the appointing judge unless excused by  
8 the judge who is trying the case with the consent of the parties to  
9 the action. ~~Nothing herein contained shall be construed to~~  
10 ~~authorize the certification of persons as certified shorthand~~  
11 ~~reporters who rely exclusively upon the steno-mask for reporting~~  
12 ~~judicial proceedings, except as provided by law.~~ A refusal of the  
13 court to permit or to require any statement to be taken down by the  
14 court reporter or transcribed after being taken down, upon the same  
15 being shown by affidavit or other direct and competent evidence, to  
16 the Supreme Court, or other appellate court, shall constitute a  
17 denial of due process of law. The court reporter may use an  
18 electronic instrument as a supplementary device.

19       2. In any trial, hearing, or proceedings, if no court reporter  
20 is available to the assigned judge either in person or remotely:

- 21           a. the judge before whom the matter is being heard may  
22               order the proceedings electronically recorded and a  
23               trial, hearing, or proceedings may proceed without the  
24               necessity of a court reporter being present. ~~Provided~~

1       ~~that if an official transcript is ordered then it~~  
2       ~~shall be prepared by the official court reporter~~ Any  
3       party may order a transcript from the proceedings  
4       electronically recorded; provided that, only  
5       transcripts prepared by an official court reporter may  
6       be used in any subsequent trial, hearing, proceeding,  
7       or appeal, or

8       b.   with approval of the judge, the parties may stipulate  
9       to the use of a freelance reporter and share the cost.  
10      If ordered, the transcript shall be prepared by the  
11      approved reporter and shall be considered the official  
12      transcript for all purposes.

13      B.   1. Upon request of either party in a civil or criminal  
14      case, the reporter shall transcribe the proceedings in a trial or  
15      other judicial proceeding, or so much thereof as may be requested by  
16      the party, certify to the correctness of the transcript, and deliver  
17      the same in accordance with the rules of the Supreme Court. The fee  
18      for an original transcript shall be set by the Supreme Court. Two  
19      copies of the original transcript shall be furnished without  
20      additional charge. Each page shall be at least twenty-five lines to  
21      the page and typed no fewer than nine characters to the typed inch.  
22      Each page shall be no more than double spaced and the margin on the  
23      left side of the page shall be no more than one and one-half (1 1/2)  
24      inches and the margin on the right side of the page shall be no more

1 than one-half (1/2) inch from the edge of the paper. The format for  
2 all transcripts shall be prescribed by the Supreme Court. The fees  
3 for making the transcript shall be paid in the first instance by the  
4 party requesting the transcript and shall be taxed as costs in the  
5 suit.

6 2. When the judge on his or her own motion orders a transcript  
7 of the reporter's notes, the judge may direct the payment of charges  
8 and the taxation of the charges as costs in such manner as the court  
9 deems appropriate. In a criminal action, if the defendant shall  
10 present to the judge an affidavit that the defendant intends in good  
11 faith to take an appeal in the case and that a transcript of the  
12 reporter's notes is necessary to enable the defendant to prosecute  
13 the appeal, and that he or she has not the means to pay for the  
14 transcript, the court, upon finding that there is reasonable basis  
15 for the averment, shall order the transcript made at the expense of  
16 the district court fund. The format preparation, delivery and  
17 filing of transcripts to be used in civil and criminal appeals may  
18 be regulated by the Supreme Court.

19 C. The court reporter shall file his or her records of the  
20 evidence and the proceedings taken in any case with the clerk of the  
21 court in which the case was tried.

22 D. To the extent that it does not substantially interfere with  
23 the court reporter's other official duties, the judge by whom a  
24 reporter is employed or to whom he or she is assigned may assign a

1 reporter to secretarial or clerical duties arising out of official  
2 court operations.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.9, as  
4 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 263, O.S.L. 2023 (20 O.S. Supp.  
5 2025, Section 106.9), is amended to read as follows:

6 Section 106.9. A. Each court reporter regularly engaged by the  
7 district court, the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims,  
8 or the Corporation Commission shall be paid a salary pursuant to the  
9 salary schedule established by the annual appropriation for the  
10 district courts and Corporation Commission and in accordance with  
11 the job description for the position to which appointed. For fiscal  
12 year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter, each court reporter shall  
13 receive an annual salary of Fifty-three Thousand Dollars  
14 (\$53,000.00).

15 B. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters  
16 who are certified or licensed shorthand reporters and those acting  
17 shorthand reporters pursuant to paragraph 3 of Section 106.3B of  
18 this title shall be paid annually the sum of Four Hundred Dollars  
19 (\$400.00) for each year of service to the district court, the  
20 Workers' Compensation Court, the Workers' Compensation Court of  
21 Existing Claims and the Corporation Commission, with a maximum of  
22 twenty (20) years of service only to be used for the purpose of  
23 longevity, not to exceed Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) per  
24 year, payable monthly. For the purpose of payment for longevity,

1 "years of service" is defined as all years served as a certified or  
2 licensed court reporter in the district court, the Workers'  
3 Compensation Court, the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
4 Claims and the Corporation Commission after June 30, 1978.

5 Longevity payments shall be made on July 1 of each year following  
6 completion of the first year of service as defined herein.

7 C. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters  
8 eligible for longevity payments pursuant to subsection B of this  
9 section shall be paid an annual equipment allowance of Three  
10 Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00). Payments for such allowance shall be  
11 made on July 1 of each year following completion of the first year  
12 of service as defined in subsection B of this section.

13 D. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters  
14 who are certified shorthand reporters shall be paid the following:

15 1. The sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year,  
16 payable monthly, to any official court reporter who ~~is a~~ holds one  
17 or more of the following certifications:

18 a. Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), as recognized  
19 by the ~~State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand~~  
20 ~~Reporters. To qualify as a RPR, an official court~~  
21 ~~reporter shall have a~~ National Court Reporters  
22 Association,

23 b. Certified Verbatim Reporter, as recognized by the  
24 National Verbatim Reporters Association,

1        c. Certified Verbatim Reporter - Stenotype (CVR-S), as  
2        recognized by the National Verbatim Reporters  
3        Association, or

4        d. other certifications authorized by the Supreme Court  
5        that demonstrate a proficiency level in reporting  
6        testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than  
7        two hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in  
8        taking a question-and-answer-type dictation, two  
9        hundred (200) words per minute in taking a jury  
10       charge, and one hundred eighty (180) words per minute  
11       in taking literary material. In addition, the  
12       individual shall pass a the Oklahoma Written Knowledge  
13       Test with a score of at least seventy percent (70%),  
14       ~~all as determined by an examination recognized by the~~  
15       ~~Board, and shall complete thirty (30) hours of~~  
16       ~~continuing education per three-year cycle commencing~~  
17       ~~at the date of recognition as directed by the Supreme~~  
18       Court;

19       2. The sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year,  
20       payable monthly, to any official court reporter who ~~is a~~ holds one  
21       or more of the following certifications:

22       a. Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), as recognized by the  
23       ~~State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand~~  
24       ~~Reporters. To qualify as a RMR, an official court~~



~~reporter shall have~~ National Court Reporters Association,

b. Certificate of Merit (CM) or Certificate of Merit Stenotype (CM-S), as recognized by the National Verbatim Reporters Association, or

c. other certifications authorized by the Supreme Court that demonstrate a proficiency level in reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred sixty (260) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer-type dictation, two hundred forty (240) words per minute in taking a jury charge, and two hundred (200) words per minute in taking literary material. In addition, the individual shall pass a the Oklahoma Written Knowledge Test with a score of at least seventy percent (70%), ~~all as determined by an examination recognized by the Board,~~ and shall complete ~~thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the date of recognition~~ as directed by the Supreme Court;

3. The sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who ~~is~~ holds a certification as a Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR), as recognized by the ~~State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters,~~ and who ~~completes thirty (30) hours of continuing education per~~

1 ~~three-year cycle commencing at the date of recognition~~ National  
2 Court Reporters Association;

3 4. The sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year,  
4 payable monthly, to any official court reporter who ~~is a~~ holds one  
5 or more of the following certifications:

6 a. Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), as recognized by  
7 the ~~State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand~~  
8 ~~Reporters, and who completes thirty (30) hours of~~  
9 ~~continuing education per three-year cycle commencing~~  
10 ~~at the date of recognition~~ National Court Reporters  
11 Association, or

12 b. Realtime Verbatim Reporter - Master (RVR-M) or  
13 Realtime Verbatim Reporter - Master - Stenotype (RVR-  
14 M-S), as recognized by the National Verbatim Reporters  
15 Association; or

16 5. Any official court reporter who is the holder of more than  
17 one certification shall be compensated in the additional amounts  
18 specified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this subsection for each  
19 certification up to a maximum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00)  
20 per year over and above the reporter's base salary, payable monthly.

21 E. In the event of a lapse in a court reporter's certification,  
22 compensation for that certification as provided for in subsection D  
23 of this section which is over and above the court reporter's salary  
24 shall be suspended until the certification is renewed or reinstated.

1 Compensation shall not be paid to a court reporter for any period  
2 during which the court reporter's certification was not in good  
3 standing.

4 F. Court reporters temporarily employed by the district court,  
5 Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, or Corporation  
6 Commission shall be compensated by the court fund of the court which  
7 they serve at a rate to be set by such court. In addition, court  
8 reporters temporarily employed pursuant to this subsection who are  
9 required by the terms of their employment to travel outside their  
10 county of residence shall receive reimbursement for mileage actually  
11 and necessarily traveled to and from the place of attendance at a  
12 rate not to exceed the rate of reimbursement specified in the State  
13 Travel Reimbursement Act for state employees. Any travel  
14 reimbursement shall be paid from the court fund of the court where  
15 the service of the temporarily employed court reporter is provided.

16 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 1503, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1503. A. Every applicant who seeks to be examined for  
19 enrollment as a certified shorthand reporter shall prove to the  
20 satisfaction of the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand  
21 Reporters that he or she:

- 22 1. Is of legal age;
- 23 2. Meets the requisite standards of ethical fitness; and
- 24 3. Has at least a high school education or its equivalent.

1 B. The examination for certification in one or more authorized  
2 methods of shorthand reporting consists of two parts, designated  
3 Part 1 and Part 2 as follows:

4 1. Part 1 consists of the test as authorized by the Supreme  
5 Court consisting of the following requirements: demonstrated  
6 proficiency in reporting testimony and proceedings at a speed of not  
7 more than two hundred (200) words per minute in taking a question-  
8 and-answer\_type dictation and at a speed of not more than one  
9 hundred eighty (180) words per minute in taking literary materials  
10 which shall be designed to test the ability of an applicant to  
11 accurately prepare a transcript of testimony and proceedings that is  
12 reasonably free from spelling errors. The Board may not increase or  
13 decrease such minimum speed requirement, by rule or otherwise; and

14 2. Part 2 is the Oklahoma Written Knowledge ~~test~~ Test which  
15 consists of not less than twenty-five multiple choice questions  
16 relating to Oklahoma law and court rules, duties of certified  
17 shorthand reporters, and general court procedure.

18 The examination shall be approved by the Supreme Court. A  
19 person who has tested with the Board and successfully completed the  
20 written knowledge portion of the examination shall be allowed to  
21 retain the credit for that portion for two (2) years from the date  
22 passed, and shall not be required to retake that portion during the  
23 two-year period.

1 C. An applicant who is academically dishonest when taking any  
2 authorized examination is disqualified and may not take the  
3 examination again until two (2) years have elapsed from the date of  
4 the examination at which the applicant was disqualified.

5 D. A certification issued under this section must be for one or  
6 more of the following methods of shorthand reporting:

7 1. ~~Written shorthand;~~

8 2. Machine shorthand;

9 2. Stenomask shorthand; or

10 3. Any other method of shorthand reporting authorized by the  
11 Supreme Court.

12 E. No person may engage in shorthand reporting in this state  
13 unless the person is a licensed or certified shorthand reporter or  
14 otherwise authorized by law or the Supreme Court.

15 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
16 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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20 60-2-16084 AQH 02/04/26  
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