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April 14, 2025

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1579

By: Lawson of the House

and

Rosino of the Senate

An Act relating to juvenile bureaus; amending 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-4-107, which relates to salaries and expenses; modifying salary limitations; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-4-107, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-4-107. A. ~~1.~~ The salary of the director and other employees of the bureau and any detention home established pursuant to Section 2-4-108 of this title shall be fixed by the judge of the Juvenile Division, subject to the general administrative authority of the county commissioners of the contracting county. ~~The salary of the director shall not exceed ninety percent (90%) of salaries of county Class A officers.~~

1 ~~2. The salary of any other employee of the juvenile bureau~~
2 ~~shall not exceed eighty five percent (85%) of Class A county~~
3 ~~officers.~~

4 B. The judge of the Juvenile Division, subject to the general
5 administrative authority of the county commissioners of the
6 contracting county, may fix a limit on the amount of expenses that
7 may be incurred by the director and assistants to the director, such
8 limit to be in the judgment of the judge adequate to care for the
9 expenses necessary to carrying out the orders of the court in an
10 efficient and expedient manner. The director and assistants to the
11 director and other personnel of the court shall keep and maintain
12 their offices at the place where the office of the judge of the
13 court is kept, unless the judge of the Juvenile Division, subject to
14 the general administrative authority of the county commissioners of
15 the contracting county, shall direct otherwise. The offices of the
16 director and assistants to the director shall contain adequate
17 equipment, desk space and consultation rooms necessary for
18 appropriate office procedure.

19 C. In addition to their salaries, the director and assistants
20 to the director shall be reimbursed at the same rate as state
21 employees for mileage traveled by them in the investigation of court
22 cases and in supervising probationers. The director and assistants
23 may also receive reimbursement, at the rate and in the manner
24 applicable to other county officers, for actual and necessary

1 expenses incurred by them in attending conferences, meetings,
2 seminars or official business of the court either within or outside
3 of the State of Oklahoma.

4 D. In all counties having a juvenile bureau, the budget of the
5 juvenile bureau for salaries and expenses of the director,
6 counselors and other employees shall be established and funded as
7 follows:

8 1. All expenses incurred in complying with the provisions of
9 this article shall be a county charge or funded by a special sales
10 tax dedicated to juvenile programs and expenses;

11 2. The salaries and other compensation of all employees of the
12 juvenile bureau shall be fixed by the judge within the limit of the
13 total appropriations therefor; and

14 3. It is made the duty of the county excise board to make the
15 necessary appropriation and levy for the payment of salaries of the
16 director and all other employees, together with the expenses of
17 administering the bureau, consistent with the duty to do likewise
18 with the budget estimates of other county officers under the board's
19 jurisdiction, as required by the Constitution and laws of this
20 state.

21 ~~4.~~ Except in instances where it is entitled to representation
22 because of insurance coverage, the district attorney of the county
23 in which the juvenile bureau is located shall represent the juvenile
24 bureau and any employee who was acting in his or her official

1 capacity at the time of the act or omission complained of in any
2 lawsuit. If the district attorney has a conflict of interest or
3 otherwise declines to represent the juvenile bureau or its
4 employees, the county commissioners may request the assistance of
5 the Attorney General or authorize the employment of private counsel
6 for the juvenile bureau and its employees in their official
7 capacity.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
10 April 14, 2025 - DO PASS
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