

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 1571

By: Rosino

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Department of Rehabilitation
8 Services; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 166.2, as
9 amended by Section 1, Chapter 356, O.S.L. 2025 (74
10 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 166.2), which relates to the
Commission for Rehabilitation Services; modifying
conditions for removal of member; and providing an
effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 166.2, as
15 amended by Section 1, Chapter 356, O.S.L. 2025 (74 O.S. Supp. 2025,
16 Section 166.2), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 166.2. A. Effective July 1, 1993, there is hereby
18 created the Commission for Rehabilitation Services, an agency of
19 this state, a body corporate and politic, with powers of government
20 and with the authority to exercise the rights, privileges, and
21 functions as herein specified, with its lawful operations deemed to
22 be an essential governmental function of this state with all the
23 attributes thereof.

B. The Commission shall appoint and remove the Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services, approve programs, policy, and budget, and perform the necessary functions of a governing board for the State Department of Rehabilitation Services.

C. 1. The Commission shall consist of seven (7) members, to be appointed as follows:

a. two members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,

b. two members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and

c. three members shall be appointed by the Governor.

2. Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, members shall be appointed for terms of three (3) years. Each term shall begin on July 1 of the respective year and end on June 30 three (3) years later.

3. The current appointee of the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve until June 30, 2025. The current appointee of the Governor shall serve until June 30, 2026. The current appointee of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve until June 30, 2027.

4. For the purpose of expanding the Commission to seven (7) members, the following additional members shall be appointed:

1 a. one member shall be appointed by the President Pro
2 Tempore of the Senate for a term beginning on July 1,
3 2025, and ending on June 30, 2027,
4 b. two members shall be appointed by the Governor, each
5 for a term beginning on July 1, 2025, and ending on
6 June 30, 2026, and
7 c. one member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
8 House of Representatives for a term beginning on July
9 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2028, in addition to
10 the member the Speaker shall appoint to fill the seat
11 of the current member whose term expires on June 30,
12 2025.

13 5. Thereafter, at the expiration of the term, or termination of
14 the member's service for any reason, the original appointing
15 authority shall appoint a successor for a term of three (3) years,
16 or for the remainder of an unexpired term.

17 D. Members of the Commission shall be knowledgeable of and have
18 concern for rehabilitation issues and disability issues; provided,
19 that such requirement shall not exclude participation of lay persons
20 as Commission members. All members shall be residents of the state
21 and qualified electors at the time of their appointment. Before
22 entering upon the duties of their office, members of the Commission
23 shall take the Constitutional oath of office and the same shall be
24 filed with the Secretary of State. A member of the Commission may
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1 be reappointed to succeed himself or herself. Commission members
2 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the performance
3 of their duties as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

4 E. The ~~Each~~ member shall serve at the pleasure of his or her
5 original appointing authority and ~~may remove any commissioner for~~
6 ~~misconduct, incompetency or neglect of duty, after giving such~~
7 ~~commissioner a written statement of charges, and opportunity for a~~
8 ~~hearing~~ be removed or replaced without cause.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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