

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 770

By: Hines of the Senate

3 and

4 Eaves of the House

5
6 An Act relating to rehabilitation services; amending
7 74 O.S. 2021, Section 166.2, which relates to the
8 Commission for Rehabilitation Services; expanding
9 membership of the Commission; removing obsolete
10 language; specifying duration and dates of terms;
11 stipulating process for appointment of additional
12 members; updating statutory language; and declaring
13 an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 166.2, is
16 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 ~~the~~
19 ~~State of Oklahoma~~ this state, a body corporate and politic, with
20 powers of government and with the authority to exercise the rights,
21 privileges and functions as herein specified, with its lawful
22 operations deemed to be an essential governmental function of ~~the~~
23 ~~State of Oklahoma~~ this state with all the attributes thereof.

24 B. The Commission shall appoint and remove the Director of the
State Department of Rehabilitation Services, approve programs,

1 policy and budget, and perform the necessary functions of a
2 governing board for the State Department of Rehabilitation Services.

3 C. 1. The Commission shall consist of ~~three (3)~~ seven (7)
4 members, to be appointed by ~~June 15, 1993,~~ as follows:

5 a. ~~one member~~ two members shall be appointed by the
6 President Pro Tempore of the ~~Oklahoma State Senate for~~
7 ~~a three-year term,~~

8 b. ~~one member~~ two members shall be appointed by the
9 Speaker of the ~~Oklahoma~~ House of Representatives ~~for a~~
10 ~~three-year term,~~ and

11 c. ~~one member~~ three members shall be appointed by the
12 Governor ~~for a three-year term.~~

13 2. ~~Thereafter, beginning with the expiration of the terms of~~
14 ~~the three members initially appointed, the Commission shall consist~~
15 ~~of three (3) members, appointed as follows:~~

16 a. ~~one member shall be appointed by the President Pro~~
17 ~~Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and shall serve a~~
18 ~~term of one (1) year,~~

19 b. ~~one member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the~~
20 ~~Oklahoma House of Representatives and shall serve a~~
21 ~~term of two (2) years, and~~

22 c. ~~one member shall be appointed by the Governor and~~
23 ~~shall serve a term of three (3) years.~~

24

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

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

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

12 a. one member shall be appointed by the President Pro
13 Tempore of the Senate for a term beginning on July 1,
14 2025, and ending on June 30, 2027,

15 b. two members shall be appointed by the Governor, each
16 for a term beginning on July 1, 2025, and ending on
17 June 30, 2026, and

18 c. one member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
19 House of Representatives for a term beginning on July
20 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2028, in addition to
21 the member the Speaker shall appoint to fill the seat
22 of the current member whose term expires on June 30,
23 2025.

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

5 D. Members of the Commission shall be knowledgeable of and have
6 concern for rehabilitation issues and disability issues; provided,
7 that such requirement shall not exclude participation of lay persons
8 as Commission members. All members shall be residents of the state
9 and qualified electors at the time of their appointment. Before
10 entering upon the duties of their office, members of the Commission
11 shall take the Constitutional oath of office and the same shall be
12 filed with the Secretary of State. A member of the Commission may
13 be reappointed to succeed himself or herself. Commission members
14 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the performance
15 of their duties as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

16 E. The original appointing authority may remove any
17 commissioner for misconduct, incompetency or neglect of duty, after
18 giving such commissioner a written statement of charges, and
19 opportunity for a hearing.

20 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
21 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
22 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
23 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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1 Passed the Senate the 26th day of March, 2025.

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3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2025.

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8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives