

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 228
Version:	INT
Request No.	1344
Author:	Sen. Deevers
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Bill Analysis

SB 228 creates the Covenant Marriage Act of Oklahoma. The measure requires 2 people intending to enter into a covenant marriage to make a declaration of intent as outlined in the measure and to sign the document. Such couples shall also undergo premarital counseling. The measure authorizes existing marriage licenses to be converted into a covenant marriage. Divorce in such a marriage shall only be granted if it can be demonstrated with a preponderance of evidence that the other spouse has committed abandonment, abuse, or adultery. Couples in a covenant marriage shall be encouraged to seek counseling in the event of marital difficulties. The measure also offers a \$2,500.00 income tax credit for joint filers and \$1,250.00 credit for single filers in a covenant marriage. The credit may be carried forward for a period of 5 years.

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