

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 29, 2021

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 2773

By: Pfeiffer of the House

5 and

6 Weaver and Bergstrom of the
7 Senate

8
9 An Act relating to prisons and reformatories;
10 amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 332.15, which relates
11 to the Pardon and Parole Board; directing members to
12 uphold certain standards; requiring disclosure of
13 conflicts of interests; directing members to withdraw
14 from participating in matters under certain
15 circumstances; making language gender neutral; and
16 providing an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 332.15, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 332.15. A. From and after ~~the effective date of this~~
21 ~~act~~ September 5, 1975, no member of the Pardon and Parole Board
22 and/or their law firm or law partners or associate may represent in
23 a legal capacity any inmate incarcerated in any state penal
24 institution. If a member of the Pardon and Parole Board, or his or
her law partners or associate or any member of his or her law firm
undertakes the representation of an inmate in violation of this

1 prohibition the member of the Board shall forfeit his or her office.
2 In any case in which an inmate requesting a pardon or parole was
3 represented in a legal capacity by any member of the Pardon and
4 Parole Board and/or their law firm or law partners or associate
5 prior to imposition of a prison term, the Board member who
6 represented such inmate shall be disqualified from voting on such
7 inmate's request for a pardon or parole.

8 B. A member of the Pardon and Parole Board shall uphold and
9 promote the independence, impartiality, fairness and integrity of
10 the Board, and should avoid impropriety or the appearance of
11 impropriety.

12 C. If any Pardon and Parole Board member determines
13 circumstances would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of all
14 the relevant facts to question his or her impartiality in a specific
15 matter, or creates the appearance of impropriety, the Pardon and
16 Parole Board member shall disclose any potential conflict of
17 interest and shall withdraw from participation in the matter.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
20 March 29, 2021 - DO PASS

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