

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 641

By: Treat

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to palliative care; creating the  
8 Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of  
9 Life; providing expiration date; stating purpose;  
10 providing for appointments; specifying date by which  
11 appointments are made; providing for vacancies;  
12 providing for designation of cochairs; specifying  
13 quorum; providing for meetings and staffing;  
14 requiring certain compliance; stating that Advisory  
15 Council members shall receive no compensation;  
16 providing reimbursement; requiring examination of  
17 certain information; requiring report; providing for  
18 codification; providing an effective date; and  
19 declaring an emergency.

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

21 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-879.5 of Title 63, unless  
23 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. There is hereby created to continue until September 1, 2017,  
the Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of Life. The  
purpose of the Advisory Council shall be to:

1. Identify methods that improve the quality and delivery of  
palliative care;

1        2. Review best practices from publicly- and privately-  
2 administered palliative care programs throughout the United States;  
3 and

4        3. Develop and publish information on palliative care issues  
5 for the general public.

6        B. The Advisory Council shall consist of nine (9) members to be  
7 appointed as follows:

8        1. Three shall be appointed by the State Commissioner of Health  
9 as follows:

10        a. one shall be a physician licensed in this state  
11            possessing knowledge of palliative care issues,

12        b. one shall be a nurse practitioner licensed in this  
13            state possessing knowledge of palliative care issues,  
14            and

15        c. one shall be an administrator of a long-term care  
16            facility licensed in this state;

17        2. Three shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
18 Senate as follows:

19        a. one shall be a representative of the pharmaceutical  
20            community,

21        b. one shall be a representative of the religious  
22            community, and

23        c. one shall be a representative of the patient advocacy  
24            community;

1           3. Three shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
2 Representatives as follows:

- 3           a. one shall be representative of the social work  
4           community,
- 5           b. one shall be family members of persons requiring the  
6           use of palliative care services, and
- 7           c. one shall be an administrator of a hospice facility  
8           licensed in this state.

9           C. Appointments to the Advisory Council shall be made by  
10 September 1, 2015. Advisory Council members shall serve at the  
11 pleasure of their appointing authorities. A vacancy on the Advisory  
12 Council shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

13           D. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of  
14 the House of Representatives shall each designate a cochair from  
15 among the members of the Advisory Council. A majority of the  
16 members of the Advisory Council shall constitute a quorum to do  
17 business. The State Department of Health shall provide staff  
18 support to the Advisory Council as necessary to assist the Advisory  
19 Council in the performance of its duties.

20           E. Members of the Advisory Council shall determine meeting  
21 dates, provided that the Advisory Council meets at least twice  
22 annually. All meetings shall comply with the provisions of the  
23 Oklahoma Open Meetings Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act.  
24 Members shall not be compensated for their service but may be

1 reimbursed by their appointing authorities for necessary expenses  
2 incurred in the performance of their duties, as follows:

3 1. Legislative members may be reimbursed for their necessary  
4 travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in  
5 accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the  
6 Oklahoma Statutes;

7 2. Nonlegislative members who are state officers or employees  
8 may be reimbursed by their respective agencies for their necessary  
9 travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in  
10 accordance with the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement  
11 Act; and

12 3. Members who are not legislators or state officers or  
13 employees of the state may be reimbursed by their appointing  
14 authorities in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel  
15 Reimbursement Act.

16 F. The Advisory Council shall include an examination of the  
17 following in its assessment and recommendations:

18 1. Methods to improve the delivery of palliative care services;

19 2. The state's role in providing palliative care services to  
20 persons requiring such care;

21 3. State policy regarding the provision of palliative care; and

22 4. Existing services, resources, and availability of palliative  
23 care services.

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1 G. The Advisory Council shall issue a report of its  
2 recommendations to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the  
3 Speaker of the House of Representatives and the State Commissioner  
4 of Health no later than September 1, 2017.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

6 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
7 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
8 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
9 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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