

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 SENATE BILL 748

By: Griffin

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Department of Human Services;
8 permitting certain pilot program; specifying
9 components of program; directing evaluation of
10 certain information for certain purposes; providing
11 membership of certain entity; permitting Department
12 to perform certain functions; authorizing
13 promulgation of rules; providing for codification;
14 and providing an effective date.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2-111 of Title 10A, unless
18 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. The Department of Human Services may, subject to available
20 funding and in consultation with an evaluation team created pursuant
21 to this section, create a pilot program to improve socioeconomic
22 outcomes for children in state custody.

23 B. If implemented by the Department, the pilot program shall:

24 1. Identify the populations of children in state custody and
the characteristics of those children including, but not limited to,
populations in which parental drug and/or alcohol abuse, mental

1 illness, mental and/or physical disability and domestic abuse are an
2 issue;

3 2. Develop and design programs to provide services to children
4 in state custody;

5 3. Develop methods for coordinating state and local services to
6 assist children and their families;

7 4. Allow and provide for participation of both urban and rural
8 concerns in developing and designing such programs;

9 5. Monitor, evaluate and review the programs implemented to
10 serve populations of children in state custody; and

11 6. Include such other areas, programs, services and information
12 deemed necessary by the Department to provide a comprehensive
13 assessment of the needs and programs necessary to provide assistance
14 to children in state custody.

15 C. An evaluation team shall determine the effectiveness of the
16 pilot program and make a report to the Legislature and to the
17 Department annually thereafter. Such report shall cover:

18 1. Effective programs that will serve children in state
19 custody;

20 2. The potential for statewide expansion of programs;

21 3. Funding sources from public and private partnerships;

22 4. Training of professionals to serve children in state
23 custody;

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1 5. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing continued effectiveness
2 of such programs;

3 6. Special needs of children in state custody from parental
4 addiction to drugs and alcohol and parental mental illness and
5 mental and/or physical disability and from domestic abuse; and

6 7. Recommendations regarding the issuance of grants and
7 contracts for serving such populations.

8 D. The evaluation team shall consist of not more than two (2)
9 representatives from the following entities who have expertise in
10 child abuse prevention or a related field and who have an
11 understanding of program evaluation techniques:

12 1. The Department of Human Services;

13 2. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
14 Services;

15 3. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth;

16 4. A statewide organization advocating for children's issues;

17 5. A statewide organization representing children in court;

18 6. The University of Oklahoma; and

19 7. Oklahoma State University.

20 E. 1. Upon receipt of recommendations from the evaluation team
21 established pursuant to this section, which indicate that the
22 expansion of the pilot project on a statewide basis would be
23 economically feasible and practical, the Department for Human
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1 Services may promulgate rules for developing a statewide program
2 based on the findings of the pilot program.

3 F. The Department may:

4 1. Contract for services necessary to carry out the duties of
5 the Department pursuant to the provisions of this section; and

6 2. Accept the services of volunteer workers or consultants,
7 provided no compensation be provided for such services.

8 G. The Department of Human Services may promulgate rules to
9 implement the provisions of this section.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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