

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 2157

6 By: Echols

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to children; enacting the Family
9 Support Accountability Act; defining terms; directing
10 departments providing home-visiting services to
11 promulgate rules; requiring home-visiting program to
12 conduct visits by trained educators; prescribing
13 programs to work in partnership; mandating program to
14 achieve a minimum of specified outcomes; directing
15 departments to work with listed groups for
16 information sharing; requiring home-visiting program
17 language for contracts and grants; mandating
18 collaboration with the Early Childhood Advisory
19 Council; prescribing development of outcomes
20 measurement plan; providing for submission of plan;
21 requiring collaboration to submit an annual outcomes
22 report; listing contents of annual outcomes report;
23 providing for codification; and providing an
24 effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 601.80 of Title 10, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Family
Support Accountability Act".

1 B. As used in the Family Support Accountability Act:

2 1. "Departments" means any state department or agency
3 implementing home-visiting programs; and

4 2. "Home-visiting program" means a state-funded or state-
5 administered, standards-based program that:

6 a. is grounded in relevant, empirically based best
7 practices and knowledge that:

8 (1) has comprehensive home-visiting standards that
9 ensure high quality service delivery and
10 continuous quality improvement, and

11 (2) follows with fidelity a program manual or design
12 that specifies the purpose, outcomes, duration
13 and frequency of services that constitute the
14 program,

15 b. provides services to families of young children that
16 elect to participate,

17 c. utilizes a variety of culturally relevant,
18 developmentally appropriate strategies,

19 d. connects families to additional services that support
20 parents,

21 e. promotes child well-being and prevents adverse
22 childhood outcomes,

23 f. promotes parental competence, child health and
24 development by building long-term relationships with

- 1 families and optimizing the relationships between
2 parents and children in their home environments,
- 3 g. provides for the collection and analysis of data about
4 program performance and outcomes at the state
5 aggregate level, county aggregate level, provider
6 level and participant level, and
- 7 h. does not include:
- 8 (1) a one-time home visit or infrequent home visits
9 with no intention of long-term services, such as
10 a program that provides one home visit for all
11 newborn children,
- 12 (2) services delivered through an individualized
13 family service plan or an individualized
14 education program under Part B or Part C of the
15 federal government's Individuals with
16 Disabilities Education Act,
- 17 (3) services initiated by a report to the Department
18 of Human Services Child Welfare Services or by
19 court order, or
- 20 (4) programs in which home visiting is supplemental
21 to other services.

22 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 601.81 of Title 10, unless there
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. The departments that provide home-visiting services may
2 adopt and promulgate rules by which the home-visiting program shall
3 operate.

4 B. The departments shall provide a framework for service
5 delivery and accountability across all home-visiting programs to
6 promote a continuum of care that targets families at the greatest
7 risk for experiencing adverse childhood outcomes.

8 C. A home-visiting program shall provide face-to-face visits by
9 specially trained parent educators to provide home-based family
10 support services.

11 D. The departments shall ensure home-visiting programs work in
12 partnership to serve children, thereby maximizing the opportunities
13 for families to receive services that best fit their needs.

14 E. A home-visiting program shall achieve two or more of the
15 following:

16 1. Improve prenatal, maternal, infant or child health outcomes,
17 including, but not limited to, indicators such as preterm birth
18 rates, substance abuse and tobacco use;

19 2. Reduce entry into the child welfare system;

20 3. Improve positive parenting and relationship skills;

21 4. Improve parental self-sufficiency, including increased
22 employment and educational attainment;

23 5. Improve children's readiness to succeed in school; and
24

1 6. Improve children's social-emotional, cognitive and language
2 and physical development, including efforts at early identification
3 of delays.

4 F. The departments shall work with community partners,
5 researchers, model developers, program providers and interested
6 private entities to develop processes that provide for a greater
7 ability to collaborate, as well as share best practices and
8 information as necessary and appropriate.

9 G. When the departments authorize funds through payments,
10 contracts or grants that are used for home-visiting programs, they
11 shall include language regarding home visiting in the funding
12 agreement contract or grant that is consistent with the provisions
13 of the Family Support Accountability Act.

14 H. State and local agencies administering home-visiting
15 programs as defined in this act, providers of home-visiting services
16 and experts in home-visiting program evaluation shall collaborate
17 with the Early Childhood Advisory Council created in Section 640.1
18 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes to:

19 1. Jointly develop an outcomes measurement plan which includes
20 indicators related to the objectives established in subsection E of
21 this section in order to monitor outcomes for children and families
22 receiving home-visiting programs and determine the efficiency of
23 agency program implementation;

24

1 2. Complete and submit the outcomes measurement plan for state-
2 funded home-visiting programs by January 1, 2016, to the Governor,
3 the Legislature, the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth and
4 the Early Childhood Advisory Council and complete and submit an
5 updated plan every subsequent five (5) years; and

6 3. Develop a process for collecting and reporting outcomes
7 measures to maintain privacy and security.

8 I. Beginning December 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the
9 departments shall allocate resources to collaborate with the Early
10 Childhood Advisory Council to submit an annual outcomes report to
11 the Governor and the Legislature.

12 J. The annual outcomes report shall include:

13 1. Achieved outcomes as agreed upon and described in the
14 previously submitted outcomes measurement plan pursuant to
15 subsection H of this section for all state-funded family support
16 programs;

17 2. Combined program data regarding:

- 18 a. the cost per family served,
- 19 b. the number of families served,
- 20 c. demographic data on families served, and
- 21 d. the number and type of programs that the departments
22 have funded; and

23 3. Recommendations for quality improvements and future program
24 investments.

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SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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