

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 9, 2018

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR ENGROSSED HOUSE  
5 BILL NO. 3104

By: Ownbey of the House

and

Griffin of the Senate

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8  
9 An Act relating to children; amending 10A O.S. 2011,  
10 Sections 1-1-105, as last amended by Section 1,  
11 Chapter 342, O.S.L. 2017, 1-2-101, as last amended by  
12 Section 1, Chapter 62, O.S.L. 2016 and 1-2-102, as  
13 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2016  
14 (10A O.S. Supp. 2017, Sections 1-1-105, 1-2-101 and  
15 1-2-102), which relate to definitions, child welfare  
16 reporting and investigations; modifying definitions;  
17 revising reporting requirements for certain health  
18 care providers; including infants diagnosed with  
19 specified medical conditions; providing for  
20 investigation after referral is accepted for a drug-  
21 endangered child; requiring certain plan under  
22 certain circumstances; providing minimum standards  
23 for certain plan; providing for establishment of Zero  
24 to Three Court Program; stating goals of certain  
program; directing certain state agencies to provide  
certain services as available; providing for  
codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-1-105, as  
last amended by Section 1, Chapter 342, O.S.L. 2017 (10A O.S. Supp.  
2017, Section 1-1-105), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 1-1-105. When used in the Oklahoma Children's Code,  
2 unless the context otherwise requires:

3 1. "Abandonment" means:

- 4 a. the willful intent by words, actions, or omissions not  
5 to return for a child, or
- 6 b. the failure to maintain a significant parental  
7 relationship with a child through visitation or  
8 communication in which incidental or token visits or  
9 communication are not considered significant, or
- 10 c. the failure to respond to notice of deprived  
11 proceedings;

12 2. "Abuse" means harm or threatened harm to the health, safety,  
13 or welfare of a child by a person responsible for the child's  
14 health, safety, or welfare, including but not limited to  
15 nonaccidental physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, or sexual  
16 exploitation. Provided, however, that nothing contained in the  
17 Oklahoma Children's Code shall prohibit any parent from using  
18 ordinary force as a means of discipline including, but not limited  
19 to, spanking, switching, or paddling.

- 20 a. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a  
21 child" means any real or threatened physical, mental,  
22 or emotional injury or damage to the body or mind that  
23 is not accidental including but not limited to sexual  
24 abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, or dependency.

1           b. "Sexual abuse" includes but is not limited to rape,  
2           incest, and lewd or indecent acts or proposals made to  
3           a child, as defined by law, by a person responsible  
4           for the health, safety, or welfare of the child.

5           c. "Sexual exploitation" includes but is not limited to  
6           allowing, permitting, encouraging, or forcing a child  
7           to engage in prostitution, as defined by law, by any  
8           person eighteen (18) years of age or older or by a  
9           person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare  
10          of a child, or allowing, permitting, encouraging, or  
11          engaging in the lewd, obscene, or pornographic, as  
12          defined by law, photographing, filming, or depicting  
13          of a child in those acts by a person responsible for  
14          the health, safety, and welfare of the child;

15          3. "Adjudication" means a finding by the court that the  
16          allegations in a petition alleging that a child is deprived are  
17          supported by a preponderance of the evidence;

18          4. "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing by the court as  
19          provided by Section 1-4-601 of this title;

20          5. "Age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate" means:

21           a. activities or items that are generally accepted as  
22           suitable for children of the same age or level of  
23           maturity or that are determined to be developmentally  
24           appropriate for a child, based on the development of

1 cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral  
2 capacities that are typical for an age or age group,  
3 and

- 4 b. in the case of a specific child, activities or items  
5 that are suitable for that child based on the  
6 developmental stages attained by the child with  
7 respect to the cognitive, emotional, physical, and  
8 behavioral capacities of the specific child.

9 In the event that any age-related activities have implications  
10 relative to the academic curriculum of a child, nothing in this  
11 paragraph shall be construed to authorize an officer or employee of  
12 the federal government to mandate, direct, or control a state or  
13 local educational agency, or the specific instructional content,  
14 academic achievement standards and assessments, curriculum, or  
15 program of instruction of a school;

16 6. "Assessment" means a comprehensive review of child safety  
17 and evaluation of family functioning and protective capacities that  
18 is conducted in response to a child abuse or neglect referral that  
19 does not allege a serious and immediate safety threat to a child;

20 7. "Behavioral health" means mental health, substance abuse, or  
21 co-occurring mental health and substance abuse diagnoses, and the  
22 continuum of mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring mental  
23 health and substance abuse treatment;

1 8. "Child" means any unmarried person under eighteen (18) years  
2 of age;

3 9. "Child advocacy center" means a center and the  
4 multidisciplinary child abuse team of which it is a member that is  
5 accredited by the National Children's Alliance or that is completing  
6 a sixth year of reaccreditation. Child advocacy centers shall be  
7 classified, based on the child population of a district attorney's  
8 district, as follows:

9 a. nonurban centers in districts with child populations  
10 that are less than sixty thousand (60,000), and

11 b. midlevel nonurban centers in districts with child  
12 populations equal to or greater than sixty thousand  
13 (60,000), but not including Oklahoma and Tulsa  
14 counties;

15 10. "Child with a disability" means any child who has a  
16 physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more  
17 of the major life activities of the child, or who is regarded as  
18 having such an impairment by a competent medical professional;

19 11. "Child-placing agency" means an agency that arranges for or  
20 places a child in a foster family home, group home, adoptive home,  
21 or a successful adulthood program;

22 12. "Children's emergency resource center" means a community-  
23 based program that may provide emergency care and a safe and  
24 structured homelike environment or a host home for children

1 providing food, clothing, shelter and hygiene products to each child  
2 served; after-school tutoring; counseling services; life-skills  
3 training; transition services; assessments; family reunification;  
4 respite care; transportation to or from school, doctors'  
5 appointments, visitations and other social, school, court or other  
6 activities when necessary; and a stable environment for children in  
7 crisis who are in custody of the Department of Human Services if  
8 permitted under the Department's policies and regulations, or who  
9 have been voluntarily placed by a parent or custodian during a  
10 temporary crisis;

11 13. "Community-based services" or "community-based programs"  
12 means services or programs which maintain community participation or  
13 supervision in their planning, operation, and evaluation.  
14 Community-based services and programs may include, but are not  
15 limited to, emergency shelter, crisis intervention, group work, case  
16 supervision, job placement, recruitment and training of volunteers,  
17 consultation, medical, educational, home-based services, vocational,  
18 social, preventive and psychological guidance, training, counseling,  
19 early intervention and diversionary substance abuse treatment,  
20 sexual abuse treatment, transitional living, independent living, and  
21 other related services and programs;

22 14. "Concurrent permanency planning" means, when indicated, the  
23 implementation of two plans for a child entering foster care. One  
24 plan focuses on reuniting the parent and child; the other seeks to

1 find a permanent out-of-home placement for the child with both plans  
2 being pursued simultaneously;

3 15. "Court-appointed special advocate" or "CASA" means a  
4 responsible adult volunteer who has been trained and is supervised  
5 by a court-appointed special advocate program recognized by the  
6 court, and when appointed by the court, serves as an officer of the  
7 court in the capacity as a guardian ad litem;

8 16. "Court-appointed special advocate program" means an  
9 organized program, administered by either an independent, not-for-  
10 profit corporation, a dependent project of an independent, not-for-  
11 profit corporation or a unit of local government, which recruits,  
12 screens, trains, assigns, supervises and supports volunteers to be  
13 available for appointment by the court as guardians ad litem;

14 17. "Custodian" means an individual other than a parent, legal  
15 guardian or Indian custodian, to whom legal custody of the child has  
16 been awarded by the court. As used in this title, the term  
17 "custodian" shall not mean the Department of Human Services;

18 18. "Day treatment" means a nonresidential program which  
19 provides intensive services to a child who resides in the child's  
20 own home, the home of a relative, group home, a foster home or  
21 residential child care facility. Day treatment programs include,  
22 but are not limited to, educational services;

23 19. "Department" means the Department of Human Services;

24

1       20. "Dependency" means a child who is homeless or without  
2 proper care or guardianship through no fault of his or her parent,  
3 legal guardian, or custodian;

4       21. "Deprived child" means a child:

- 5       a. who is for any reason destitute, homeless, or  
6       abandoned,
- 7       b. who does not have the proper parental care or  
8       guardianship,
- 9       c. who has been abused, neglected, or is dependent,
- 10      d. whose home is an unfit place for the child by reason  
11      of depravity on the part of the parent or legal  
12      guardian of the child, or other person responsible for  
13      the health or welfare of the child,
- 14      e. who is a child in need of special care and treatment  
15      because of the child's physical or mental condition,  
16      and the child's parents, legal guardian, or other  
17      custodian is unable or willfully fails to provide such  
18      special care and treatment. As used in this  
19      paragraph, a child in need of special care and  
20      treatment includes, but is not limited to, a child who  
21      at birth tests positive for alcohol or a controlled  
22      dangerous substance and who, pursuant to a drug or  
23      alcohol screen of the child and an assessment of the  
24



- 1 parent, is determined to be at risk of harm or  
2 threatened harm to the health or safety of a child,  
3 f. who is a child with a disability deprived of the  
4 nutrition necessary to sustain life or of the medical  
5 treatment necessary to remedy or relieve a life-  
6 threatening medical condition in order to cause or  
7 allow the death of the child if such nutrition or  
8 medical treatment is generally provided to similarly  
9 situated children without a disability or children  
10 with disabilities; provided that no medical treatment  
11 shall be necessary if, in the reasonable medical  
12 judgment of the attending physician, such treatment  
13 would be futile in saving the life of the child,  
14 g. who, due to improper parental care and guardianship,  
15 is absent from school as specified in Section 10-106  
16 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, if the child is  
17 subject to compulsory school attendance,  
18 h. whose parent, legal guardian or custodian for good  
19 cause desires to be relieved of custody,  
20 i. who has been born to a parent whose parental rights to  
21 another child have been involuntarily terminated by  
22 the court and the conditions which led to the making  
23 of the finding, which resulted in the termination of  
24

1 the parental rights of the parent to the other child,  
2 have not been corrected, or

3 j. whose parent, legal guardian, or custodian has  
4 subjected another child to abuse or neglect or has  
5 allowed another child to be subjected to abuse or  
6 neglect and is currently a respondent in a deprived  
7 proceeding.

8 Nothing in the Oklahoma Children's Code shall be construed to  
9 mean a child is deprived for the sole reason the parent, legal  
10 guardian, or person having custody or control of a child, in good  
11 faith, selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through  
12 prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized  
13 church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of  
14 disease or remedial care of such child.

15 Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prevent a court from  
16 immediately assuming custody of a child and ordering whatever action  
17 may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the  
18 child's health or welfare;

19 22. "Dispositional hearing" means a hearing by the court as  
20 provided by Section 1-4-706 of this title;

21 23. "Drug-endangered child" means a child who is at risk of  
22 suffering physical, psychological or sexual harm as a result of the  
23 use, possession, distribution, manufacture or cultivation of  
24 controlled substances, or the attempt of any of these acts, by a

1 person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of the child,  
2 as defined in ~~paragraph 51~~ of this section. This term includes  
3 circumstances wherein the substance abuse of the person responsible  
4 for the health, safety or welfare of the child interferes with that  
5 person's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing  
6 environment for the child. ~~The term also includes newborns who test~~  
7 ~~positive for a controlled dangerous substance, with the exception of~~  
8 ~~those substances administered under the care of a physician;~~

9 24. "Emergency custody" means the custody of a child prior to  
10 adjudication of the child following issuance of an order of the  
11 district court pursuant to Section 1-4-201 of this title or  
12 following issuance of an order of the district court pursuant to an  
13 emergency custody hearing, as specified by Section 1-4-203 of this  
14 title;

15 25. "Facility" means a place, an institution, a building or  
16 part thereof, a set of buildings, or an area whether or not  
17 enclosing a building or set of buildings used for the lawful custody  
18 and treatment of children;

19 26. "Failure to protect" means failure to take reasonable  
20 action to remedy or prevent child abuse or neglect, and includes the  
21 conduct of a non-abusing parent or guardian who knows the identity  
22 of the abuser or the person neglecting the child, but lies, conceals  
23 or fails to report the child abuse or neglect or otherwise take  
24 reasonable action to end the abuse or neglect;

1       27. "Foster care" or "foster care services" means continuous  
2 twenty-four-hour care and supportive services provided for a child  
3 in foster placement including, but not limited to, the care,  
4 supervision, guidance, and rearing of a foster child by the foster  
5 parent;

6       28. "Foster family home" means the private residence of a  
7 foster parent who provides foster care services to a child. Such  
8 term shall include a nonkinship foster family home, a therapeutic  
9 foster family home, or the home of a relative or other kinship care  
10 home;

11       29. "Foster parent eligibility assessment" includes a criminal  
12 background investigation including, but not limited to, a national  
13 criminal history records search based upon the submission of  
14 fingerprints, home assessments, and any other assessment required by  
15 the Department of Human Services, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, or  
16 any child-placing agency pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma  
17 Child Care Facilities Licensing Act;

18       30. "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed by the court  
19 pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title having  
20 those duties and responsibilities as set forth in that section. The  
21 term "guardian ad litem" shall refer to a court-appointed special  
22 advocate as well as to any other person appointed pursuant to the  
23 provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title to serve as a guardian  
24 ad litem;

1 31. "Guardian ad litem of the estate of the child" means a  
2 person appointed by the court to protect the property interests of a  
3 child pursuant to Section 1-8-108 of this title;

4 32. "Group home" means a residential facility licensed by the  
5 Department to provide full-time care and community-based services  
6 for more than five but fewer than thirteen children;

7 33. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a  
8 child" means any real or threatened physical, mental, or emotional  
9 injury or damage to the body or mind that is not accidental  
10 including, but not limited to, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation,  
11 neglect, or dependency;

12 34. "Heinous and shocking abuse" includes, but is not limited  
13 to, aggravated physical abuse that results in serious bodily,  
14 mental, or emotional injury. "Serious bodily injury" means injury  
15 that involves:

- 16 a. a substantial risk of death,
- 17 b. extreme physical pain,
- 18 c. protracted disfigurement,
- 19 d. a loss or impairment of the function of a body member,  
20 organ, or mental faculty,
- 21 e. an injury to an internal or external organ or the  
22 body,
- 23 f. a bone fracture,
- 24 g. sexual abuse or sexual exploitation,

- 1 h. chronic abuse including, but not limited to, physical,  
2 emotional, or sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation  
3 which is repeated or continuing,  
4 i. torture that includes, but is not limited to,  
5 inflicting, participating in or assisting in  
6 inflicting intense physical or emotional pain upon a  
7 child repeatedly over a period of time for the purpose  
8 of coercing or terrorizing a child or for the purpose  
9 of satisfying the craven, cruel, or prurient desires  
10 of the perpetrator or another person, or  
11 j. any other similar aggravated circumstance;

12 35. "Heinous and shocking neglect" includes, but is not limited  
13 to:

- 14 a. chronic neglect that includes, but is not limited to,  
15 a persistent pattern of family functioning in which  
16 the caregiver has not met or sustained the basic needs  
17 of a child which results in harm to the child,  
18 b. neglect that has resulted in a diagnosis of the child  
19 as a failure to thrive,  
20 c. an act or failure to act by a parent that results in  
21 the death or near death of a child or sibling, serious  
22 physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, sexual  
23 exploitation, or presents an imminent risk of serious  
24 harm to a child, or

1           d.    any other similar aggravating circumstance;

2           36.  "Individualized service plan" means a document written  
3 pursuant to Section 1-4-704 of this title that has the same meaning  
4 as "service plan" or "treatment plan" where those terms are used in  
5 the Oklahoma Children's Code;

6           37.  "Infant" means a child who is twelve (12) months of age or  
7 younger;

8           38.  "Institution" means a residential facility offering care  
9 and treatment for more than twenty residents;

10          39.  a.  "Investigation" means a response to an allegation of  
11                abuse or neglect that involves a serious and immediate  
12                threat to the safety of the child, making it necessary  
13                to determine:

14                (1)  the current safety of a child and the risk of  
15                subsequent abuse or neglect, and

16                (2)  whether child abuse or neglect occurred and  
17                whether the family needs prevention- and  
18                intervention-related services.

19          b.  "Investigation" results in a written response stating  
20                one of the following findings:

21                (1)  "substantiated" means the Department has  
22                determined, after an investigation of a report of  
23                child abuse or neglect and based upon some  
24                credible evidence, that child abuse or neglect

1 has occurred. When child abuse or neglect is  
2 substantiated, the Department may recommend:

3 (a) court intervention if the Department finds  
4 the health, safety, or welfare of the child  
5 is threatened, or

6 (b) child abuse and neglect prevention- and  
7 intervention-related services for the child,  
8 parents or persons responsible for the care  
9 of the child if court intervention is not  
10 determined to be necessary,

11 (2) "unsubstantiated" means the Department has  
12 determined, after an investigation of a report of  
13 child abuse or neglect, that insufficient  
14 evidence exists to fully determine whether child  
15 abuse or neglect has occurred. If child abuse or  
16 neglect is unsubstantiated, the Department may  
17 recommend, when determined to be necessary, that  
18 the parents or persons responsible for the care  
19 of the child obtain child abuse and neglect  
20 prevention- and intervention-related services, or

21 (3) "ruled out" means a report in which a child  
22 protective services specialist has determined,  
23 after an investigation of a report of child abuse  
24



1 or neglect, that no child abuse or neglect has  
2 occurred;

3 40. "Kinship care" means full-time care of a child by a kinship  
4 relation;

5 41. "Kinship guardianship" means a permanent guardianship as  
6 defined in this section;

7 42. "Kinship relation" or "kinship relationship" means  
8 relatives, stepparents, or other responsible adults who have a bond  
9 or tie with a child and/or to whom has been ascribed a family  
10 relationship role with the child's parents or the child; provided,  
11 however, in cases where the Indian Child Welfare Act applies, the  
12 definitions contained in 25 U.S.C., Section 1903 shall control;

13 43. "Mental health facility" means a mental health or substance  
14 abuse treatment facility as defined by the Inpatient Mental Health  
15 and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act;

16 44. "Minor" means the same as the term "child" as defined in  
17 this section;

18 45. "Minor in need of treatment" means a child in need of  
19 mental health or substance abuse treatment as defined by the  
20 Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act;

21 46. "Multidisciplinary child abuse team" means any team  
22 established pursuant to Section 1-9-102 of this title of three or  
23 more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification,  
24 investigation, prosecution, and treatment of physical and sexual

1 child abuse and who are qualified to facilitate a broad range of  
2 prevention- and intervention-related services and services related  
3 to child abuse. For purposes of this definition, "freestanding"  
4 means a team not used by a child advocacy center for its  
5 accreditation;

6 47. "Near death" means a child is in serious or critical  
7 condition, as certified by a physician, as a result of abuse or  
8 neglect;

9 48. "Neglect" means:

10 a. the failure or omission to provide any of the  
11 following:

- 12 (1) adequate nurturance and affection, food,  
13 clothing, shelter, sanitation, hygiene, or  
14 appropriate education,  
15 (2) medical, dental, or behavioral health care,  
16 (3) supervision or appropriate caretakers, or  
17 (4) special care made necessary by the physical or  
18 mental condition of the child,

19 b. the failure or omission to protect a child from  
20 exposure to any of the following:

- 21 (1) the use, possession, sale, or manufacture of  
22 illegal drugs,  
23 (2) illegal activities, or  
24

1 (3) sexual acts or materials that are not age-  
2 appropriate, or

3 c. abandonment.

4 Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to mean a child is  
5 abused or neglected for the sole reason the parent, legal guardian  
6 or person having custody or control of a child, in good faith,  
7 selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in  
8 accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or  
9 religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or  
10 remedial care of such child. Nothing contained in this paragraph  
11 shall prevent a court from immediately assuming custody of a child,  
12 pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code, and ordering whatever  
13 action may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the  
14 child's health or welfare;

15 49. "Permanency hearing" means a hearing by the court pursuant  
16 to Section 1-4-811 of this title;

17 50. "Permanent custody" means the court-ordered custody of an  
18 adjudicated deprived child when a parent-child relationship no  
19 longer exists due to termination of parental rights or due to the  
20 death of a parent or parents;

21 51. "Permanent guardianship" means a judicially created  
22 relationship between a child, a kinship relation of the child, or  
23 other adult established pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-  
24 709 of this title;

1       52. "Person responsible for a child's health, safety, or  
2 welfare" includes a parent; a legal guardian; custodian; a foster  
3 parent; a person eighteen (18) years of age or older with whom the  
4 child's parent cohabitates or any other adult residing in the home  
5 of the child; an agent or employee of a public or private  
6 residential home, institution, facility or day treatment program as  
7 defined in Section 175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or  
8 an owner, operator, or employee of a child care facility as defined  
9 by Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

10       53. "Plan of safe care" means a plan developed for an infant  
11 with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum  
12 Disorder upon release from the care of a health care provider that  
13 addresses the health and substance use treatment needs of the infant  
14 and mother or caregiver;

15       54. "Protective custody" means custody of a child taken by a  
16 law enforcement officer or designated employee of the court without  
17 a court order;

18       ~~54.~~ 55. "Putative father" means an alleged father as that term  
19 is defined in Section 7700-102 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

20       ~~55.~~ 56. "Reasonable and prudent parent standard" means the  
21 standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions  
22 that maintain the health, safety, and best interests of a child  
23 while at the same time encouraging the emotional and developmental  
24 growth of the child. This standard shall be used by the child's

1 caregiver when determining whether to allow a child to participate  
2 in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.  
3 For purposes of this definition, the term "caregiver" means a foster  
4 parent with whom a child in foster care has been placed, a  
5 representative of a group home where a child has been placed or a  
6 designated official for a residential child care facility where a  
7 child in foster care has been placed;

8 ~~56.~~ 57. "Relative" means a grandparent, great-grandparent,  
9 brother or sister of whole or half blood, aunt, uncle or any other  
10 person related to the child;

11 ~~57.~~ 58. "Residential child care facility" means a twenty-four-  
12 hour residential facility where children live together with or are  
13 supervised by adults who are not their parents or relatives;

14 ~~58.~~ 59. "Review hearing" means a hearing by the court pursuant  
15 to Section 1-4-807 of this title;

16 ~~59.~~ 60. "Risk" means the likelihood that an incident of child  
17 abuse or neglect will occur in the future;

18 ~~60.~~ 61. "Safety threat" means the threat of serious harm due to  
19 child abuse or neglect occurring in the present or in the very near  
20 future and without the intervention of another person, a child would  
21 likely or in all probability sustain severe or permanent disability  
22 or injury, illness, or death;

23 ~~61.~~ 62. "Safety analysis" means action taken by the Department  
24 in response to a report of alleged child abuse or neglect that may

1 include an assessment or investigation based upon an analysis of the  
2 information received according to priority guidelines and other  
3 criteria adopted by the Department;

4 ~~62.~~ 63. "Safety evaluation" means evaluation of a child's  
5 situation by the Department using a structured, evidence-based tool  
6 to determine if the child is subject to a safety threat;

7 ~~63.~~ 64. "Secure facility" means a facility which is designed  
8 and operated to ensure that all entrances and exits from the  
9 facility are subject to the exclusive control of the staff of the  
10 facility, whether or not the juvenile being detained has freedom of  
11 movement within the perimeter of the facility, or a facility which  
12 relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences, or physical restraint  
13 in order to control behavior of its residents;

14 ~~64.~~ 65. "Sibling" means a biologically or legally related  
15 brother or sister of a child. This includes an individual who  
16 satisfies at least one of the following conditions with respect to a  
17 child:

- 18 a. the individual is considered by state law to be a  
19 sibling of the child, or  
20 b. the individual would have been considered a sibling  
21 under state law but for a termination or other  
22 disruption of parental rights, such as the death of a  
23 parent;  
24

1       ~~65.~~ 66. "Specialized foster care" means foster care provided to  
2 a child in a foster home or agency-contracted home which:

- 3           a. has been certified by the Developmental Disabilities
- 4                Services Division of the Department of Human Services,
- 5           b. is monitored by the Division, and
- 6           c. is funded through the Home- and Community-Based Waiver
- 7                Services Program administered by the Division;

8       ~~66.~~ 67. "Successful adulthood program" means a program  
9 specifically designed to assist a child to enhance those skills and  
10 abilities necessary for successful adult living. A successful  
11 adulthood program may include, but shall not be limited to, such  
12 features as minimal direct staff supervision, and the provision of  
13 supportive services to assist children with activities necessary for  
14 finding an appropriate place of residence, completing an education  
15 or vocational training, obtaining employment, or obtaining other  
16 similar services;

17       ~~67.~~ 68. "Temporary custody" means court-ordered custody of an  
18 adjudicated deprived child;

19       ~~68.~~ 69. "Therapeutic foster family home" means a foster family  
20 home which provides specific treatment services, pursuant to a  
21 therapeutic foster care contract, which are designed to remedy  
22 social and behavioral problems of a foster child residing in the  
23 home;

1       ~~69.~~ 70. "Trafficking in persons" means sex trafficking or  
2 severe forms of trafficking in persons as described in Section 7102  
3 of Title 22 of the United States Code:

4           a. "sex trafficking" means the recruitment, harboring,  
5 transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or  
6 soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial  
7 sex act, and

8           b. "severe forms of trafficking in persons" means:

9               (1) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is  
10 induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which  
11 the person induced to perform such act has not  
12 attained eighteen (18) years of age, or

13               (2) the recruitment, harboring, transportation,  
14 provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting  
15 of a person for labor or services, through the  
16 use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose  
17 of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage,  
18 debt bondage, or slavery;

19       ~~70.~~ 71. "Transitional living program" means a residential  
20 program that may be attached to an existing facility or operated  
21 solely for the purpose of assisting children to develop the skills  
22 and abilities necessary for successful adult living. The program  
23 may include, but shall not be limited to, reduced staff supervision,  
24 vocational training, educational services, employment and employment



1 training, and other appropriate independent living skills training  
2 as a part of the transitional living program; and

3 ~~71.~~ 72. "Voluntary foster care placement" means the temporary  
4 placement of a child by the parent, legal guardian or custodian of  
5 the child in foster care pursuant to a signed placement agreement  
6 between the Department or a child-placing agency and the child's  
7 parent, legal guardian or custodian.

8 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-101, as  
9 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 62, O.S.L. 2016 (10A O.S. Supp.  
10 2017, Section 1-2-101), is amended to read as follows:

11 Section 1-2-101. A. 1. The Department of Human Services shall  
12 establish a statewide centralized hotline for the reporting of child  
13 abuse or neglect to the Department.

14 2. The Department shall provide hotline-specific training  
15 including, but not limited to, interviewing skills, customer service  
16 skills, narrative writing, necessary computer systems, making case  
17 determinations, and identifying priority situations.

18 3. The Department is authorized to contract with third parties  
19 in order to train hotline workers.

20 4. The Department shall develop a system to track the number of  
21 calls received, and of that number:

- 22 a. the number of calls screened out,  
23 b. the number of referrals assigned,

24

1 c. the number of calls received by persons unwilling to  
2 disclose basic personal information including, but not  
3 limited to, first and last name, and

4 d. the number of calls in which the allegations were  
5 later found to be unsubstantiated or ruled out.

6 5. The Department shall electronically record each referral  
7 received by the hotline and establish a secure means of retaining  
8 the recordings for twelve (12) months. The recordings shall be  
9 confidential and subject to disclosure only if a court orders the  
10 disclosure of the referral. The Department shall redact any  
11 information identifying the reporting party unless otherwise ordered  
12 by the court.

13 B. 1. Every person having reason to believe that a child under  
14 the age of eighteen (18) years is a victim of abuse or neglect shall  
15 report the matter promptly to the Department of Human Services.  
16 Reports shall be made to the hotline provided for in subsection A of  
17 this section. Any allegation of abuse or neglect reported in any  
18 manner to a county office shall immediately be referred to the  
19 hotline by the Department. Provided, however, that in actions for  
20 custody by abandonment, provided for in Section 2-117 of Title 30 of  
21 the Oklahoma Statutes, there shall be no reporting requirement.

22 2. Every physician, surgeon, or other health care professional  
23 including doctors of medicine, licensed osteopathic physicians,  
24 residents and interns, or any other health care professional

1 ~~attending the birth of a child who~~ or midwife involved in the  
2 prenatal care of expectant mothers or the delivery or care of  
3 infants shall promptly report to the Department instances in which  
4 an infant tests positive for alcohol or a controlled dangerous  
5 substance ~~shall promptly report the matter to the Department.~~ This  
6 shall include infants who are diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence  
7 Syndrome or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

8 3. No privilege or contract shall relieve any person from the  
9 requirement of reporting pursuant to this section.

10 4. The reporting obligations under this section are individual,  
11 and no employer, supervisor, administrator, governing body or entity  
12 shall interfere with the reporting obligations of any employee or  
13 other person or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against the  
14 employee or other person who in good faith reports suspected child  
15 abuse or neglect, or who provides testimony in any proceeding  
16 involving child abuse or neglect. Any employer, supervisor,  
17 administrator, governing body or entity who discharges,  
18 discriminates or retaliates against the employee or other person  
19 shall be liable for damages, costs and attorney fees. If a child  
20 who is the subject of the report or other child is harmed by the  
21 discharge, discrimination or retaliation described in this  
22 paragraph, the party harmed may file an action to recover damages,  
23 costs and attorney fees.

24

1           5. Every physician, surgeon, ~~or~~ other health care professional  
2 or midwife making a report of abuse or neglect as required by this  
3 subsection or examining a child to determine the likelihood of abuse  
4 or neglect and every hospital or related institution in which the  
5 child was examined or treated shall provide, upon request, copies of  
6 the results of the examination or copies of the examination on which  
7 the report was based and any other clinical notes, x-rays,  
8 photographs, and other previous or current records relevant to the  
9 case to law enforcement officers conducting a criminal investigation  
10 into the case and to employees of the Department of Human Services  
11 conducting an investigation of alleged abuse or neglect in the case.

12           C. Any person who knowingly and willfully fails to promptly  
13 report suspected child abuse or neglect or who interferes with the  
14 prompt reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect may be reported  
15 to local law enforcement for criminal investigation and, upon  
16 conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person  
17 with prolonged knowledge of ongoing child abuse or neglect who  
18 knowingly and willfully fails to promptly report such knowledge may  
19 be reported to local law enforcement for criminal investigation and,  
20 upon conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a felony. For the  
21 purposes of this paragraph, "prolonged knowledge" shall mean  
22 knowledge of at least six (6) months of child abuse or neglect.

23           D. 1. Any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false  
24 report pursuant to the provisions of this section or a report that

1 the person knows lacks factual foundation may be reported to local  
2 law enforcement for criminal investigation and, upon conviction  
3 thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

4 2. If a court determines that an accusation of child abuse or  
5 neglect made during a child custody proceeding is false and the  
6 person making the accusation knew it to be false at the time the  
7 accusation was made, the court may impose a fine, not to exceed Five  
8 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) and reasonable attorney fees incurred  
9 in recovering the sanctions, against the person making the  
10 accusation. The remedy provided by this paragraph is in addition to  
11 paragraph 1 of this subsection or to any other remedy provided by  
12 law.

13 E. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to  
14 exempt or prohibit any person from reporting any suspected child  
15 abuse or neglect pursuant to subsection B of this section.

16 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-2-102, as  
17 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 2016 (10A O.S. Supp.  
18 2017, Section 1-2-102), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1-2-102. A. 1. Upon receipt of a report that a child  
20 may be abused, neglected or drug-endangered, the Department of Human  
21 Services shall conduct a safety analysis.

22 2. The Department may employ or contract with active or retired  
23 social work, medical and law enforcement professionals who shall be  
24 strategically placed throughout the state to:

- a. provide investigation support and to assist caseworkers with assessment decisions and intervention activities,
- b. serve as consultants to caseworkers in all aspects of their duties, and
- c. designate persons who shall act as liaisons within the Department whose primary functions are to develop relationships with local law enforcement agencies and courts.

3. The Department shall forward a report of its assessment or investigation and findings to any district attorney's office which may have jurisdiction to file a petition pursuant to Section 1-4-101 of this title.

4. The Department shall determine the military status of parents whose children are subject to abuse or neglect. If the Department determines that a parent or guardian is currently serving on active duty in the United States military, the Department shall notify a United States Department of Defense family advocacy program that there is an investigation into the parent or guardian. The Department shall forward a report of its assessment or investigation and findings to the appropriate military law enforcement entity.

5. Whenever the Department determines there is a child that meets the definition of a "drug-endangered child", as defined in Section 1-1-105 of this title, or a child has been diagnosed with

1 fetal alcohol syndrome and the referral is accepted for  
2 investigation, the Department shall conduct an investigation of the  
3 allegations and shall not limit the evaluation of the circumstances  
4 to an assessment.

5 6. Whenever the Department determines an infant has been  
6 diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome or a Fetal Alcohol  
7 Spectrum Disorder, but the referral is not accepted for  
8 investigation, the Department shall develop a plan of safe care that  
9 addresses both the infant and affected family member or caregiver.  
10 The plan of safe care shall address, at a minimum, the health and  
11 substance use treatment needs of the infant and affected family  
12 member or caregiver.

13 B. 1. If, upon receipt of a report alleging abuse or neglect  
14 or during the assessment or investigation, the Department determines  
15 that:

- 16 a. the alleged perpetrator is someone other than a person  
17 responsible for the child's health, safety, or  
18 welfare, and
- 19 b. the alleged abuse or neglect of the child does not  
20 appear to be attributable to failure on the part of a  
21 person responsible for the child's health, safety, or  
22 welfare to provide protection for the child,

23  
24

1 the Department shall immediately make a referral, either verbally or  
2 in writing, to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for the  
3 purpose of conducting a possible criminal investigation.

4 2. After making the referral to the law enforcement agency, the  
5 Department shall not be responsible for further investigation  
6 unless:

7 a. the Department has reason to believe the alleged  
8 perpetrator is a parent of another child, not the  
9 subject of the criminal investigation, or is otherwise  
10 a person responsible for the health, safety, or  
11 welfare of another child,

12 b. notice is received from a law enforcement agency that  
13 it has determined the alleged perpetrator is a parent  
14 of or a person responsible for the health, safety, or  
15 welfare of another child not the subject of the  
16 criminal investigation, or

17 c. the appropriate law enforcement agency requests the  
18 Department to assist in the investigation. If funds  
19 and personnel are available, as determined by the  
20 Director of the Department or a designee, the  
21 Department may assist law enforcement in interviewing  
22 children alleged to be victims of physical or sexual  
23 abuse.

24



1 3. If, upon receipt of a report alleging abuse or neglect or  
2 during the assessment or investigation, the Department determines  
3 that the alleged abuse or neglect of the child involves:

4 a. a child in the custody of the Office of Juvenile  
5 Affairs, and

6 b. at the time of the alleged abuse or neglect, such  
7 child was placed in a secure facility operated by the  
8 Office of Juvenile Affairs, as defined by Section 2-1-  
9 103 of ~~Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title,

10 the Department shall immediately make a referral, either verbally or  
11 in writing, to the appropriate law enforcement agency for the  
12 purpose of conducting a possible criminal investigation. After  
13 making the referral to the law enforcement agency, the Department  
14 shall not be responsible for further investigation.

15 C. 1. Any law enforcement agency receiving a referral as  
16 provided in this section shall provide the Department with a copy of  
17 the report of any investigation resulting from a referral from the  
18 Department.

19 2. Whenever, in the course of any criminal investigation, a law  
20 enforcement agency determines that there is cause to believe that a  
21 child, other than a child in the custody of the Office of Juvenile  
22 Affairs and placed in an Office of Juvenile Affairs secure juvenile  
23 facility, may be abused or neglected by reason of the acts,  
24 omissions, or failures on the part of a person responsible for the

1 health, safety, or welfare of the child, the law enforcement agency  
2 shall immediately contact the Department for the purpose of an  
3 investigation.

4 D. If, upon receipt of a report alleging abuse or neglect, the  
5 Department determines that the family has been the subject of a  
6 deprived petition, the Department shall conduct a thorough  
7 investigation of the allegations and shall not limit the evaluation  
8 of the circumstances to an assessment. In addition, if the family  
9 has been the subject of three ~~(3)~~ or more referrals, the Department  
10 shall conduct a thorough investigation of the allegations and shall  
11 not limit the evaluation of the circumstances to an assessment.

12 E. For the purposes of this section, "law enforcement" shall  
13 include military law enforcement if the subject of an investigation  
14 of abuse or neglect is currently serving in any branch of the United  
15 States military.

16 F. The Department shall promulgate rules to implement the  
17 provisions of this section.

18 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-9-124 of Title 10A, unless  
20 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 District courts of this state are hereby authorized to establish  
22 a "Zero to Three Court Program," which may be established by a judge  
23 with jurisdiction over juvenile court matters with the goals of  
24 reducing time to permanency of children thirty-six (36) months of

1 age or younger by surrounding at-risk families with support  
2 services, reducing incidences of repeat maltreatment among children  
3 thirty-six (36) months of age or younger, and promoting effective  
4 interaction and the use of resources among both public and private,  
5 state and local, child and family services agencies; state and local  
6 mental health agencies; and community agencies. The Department of  
7 Human Services, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
8 Services and the Administrative Offices of the Courts shall  
9 collaborate to provide services to Zero to Three Court Programs as  
10 resources are available.

11 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
12 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
16 April 9, 2018 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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