



1 Training, the Consumer Credit Commission, the Board of Managers of  
2 the State Insurance Fund, the Oklahoma Tax Commission, the  
3 Commissioners of the Land Office, the Oklahoma Public Welfare  
4 Commission also known as the Commission for Human Services, the  
5 State Board of Corrections, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, the  
6 Department of Public Safety, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics  
7 and Dangerous Drugs Control, the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement  
8 Commission, the Transportation Commission, the Oklahoma Energy  
9 Resources Board, the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission, the  
10 Office of Management and Enterprise Services, the Oklahoma Water  
11 Resources Board, the Department of Labor, the Department of  
12 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, the Northeast Oklahoma Public  
13 Facilities Authority, the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and  
14 Retirement System, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System,  
15 the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, the Oklahoma  
16 Conservation Commission, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, ~~and~~ the  
17 State Board of Pharmacy, and until January 1, 2022, the Oklahoma  
18 Department of Veterans Affairs.

19 3. The provisions of paragraph 2 of this subsection shall not  
20 be construed to authorize the Office of Juvenile Affairs to employ  
21 any attorneys that are not specifically authorized by law.

22 4. All the legal duties of such officer, board or commission  
23 shall devolve upon and are hereby vested in the Attorney General;  
24 provided that:

1 a. the Governor shall have authority to employ special  
2 counsel to protect the rights or interest of the state  
3 as provided in Section 6 of this title, and

4 b. liquidation agents of banks shall have the authority  
5 to employ local counsel, with the consent of the Bank  
6 Commissioner and the Attorney General and the approval  
7 of the district court.

8 B. At the request of any state officer, board or commission,  
9 except the Corporation Commission, the Board of Managers of the  
10 CompSource Oklahoma, Oklahoma Tax Commission and the Commissioners  
11 of the Land Office, the Grand River Dam Authority, the Oklahoma  
12 State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, the Alcoholic  
13 Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission, the Oklahoma Firefighters  
14 Pension and Retirement System, the Oklahoma Public Employees  
15 Retirement System, the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and  
16 Judges and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, the  
17 Attorney General shall defend any action in which they may be sued  
18 in their official capacity. At the request of any such state  
19 officer, board or commission, the Attorney General shall have  
20 authority to institute suits in the name of the State of Oklahoma on  
21 their relation, if after investigation the Attorney General is  
22 convinced there is sufficient legal merit to justify the action.

23 C. Any officer, board, or commission which has the authority to  
24 employ or appoint attorneys may request that the Attorney General

1 defend any action arising pursuant to the provisions of The  
2 Governmental Tort Claims Act.

3 D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to repeal or  
4 affect the provisions of the statutes of this state pertaining to  
5 attorneys and legal advisors of the several commissions and  
6 departments of state specified in subsection B of this section, and  
7 all acts and parts of acts pertaining thereto shall be and remain in  
8 full force and effect.

9 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
10 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
11 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
12 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS,  
14 dated 03/22/2016 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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