

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL 915

6 By: Brecheen

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to the Department of Human Services;
9 permitting Department to contract with certain
10 entities for certain evaluation; providing funding
11 for certain contract; specifying contents of
12 evaluation; requiring completion by certain date;
13 directing submission of certain report; prohibiting
14 authorization of certain contracts without
15 legislative approval; directing promulgation of
16 rules; providing for codification; and providing an
17 effective date.

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 230.79 of Title 56, unless there
21 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. The Department of Human Services shall contract with a
23 private company, nonprofit or academic institution to assist with
24 evaluation of the Oklahoma Marriage Initiative (OMI). The
25 Department shall develop a scope of services for a request for
26 proposals issued pursuant to The Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act,
27 Section 85.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for

1 professional services necessary to complete evaluations pursuant to
2 this act. The cost of such contract shall be paid by the Department
3 using funds from the TANF block grant.

4 B. The evaluation authorized by this act shall:

5 1. Review the effectiveness of the OMI with respect to reducing
6 divorce rates in this state;

7 2. Examining the use funding currently designated for the OMI
8 towards other forms of counseling for qualifying residents of this
9 state;

10 3. Propose alternative programs to accomplish the goals
11 specified by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
12 Reconciliation Act of 1996, with specific focus on policies to
13 promote the formation and maintenance of two-parent families; and

14 4. Review best practices from states using TANF funds for the
15 provision of marriage counseling and other related services.

16 C. The evaluation required by this section shall be completed
17 by no later than December 31, 2016. The Department shall submit a
18 copy of the evaluation to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
19 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Governor.

20 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 230.80 of Title 56, unless there
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. The Department of Human Services shall not authorize or
24 reauthorize any contract or other agreement for the provision of

1 services by the Oklahoma Marriage Initiative (OMI) after December
2 31, 2017, without approval from the Legislature.

3 B. The Department shall promulgate rules to implement the
4 provisions of this act.

5 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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