

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

3 SENATE BILL 1677

By: Daniels

4
5 AS INTRODUCED

6 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Children's Code;
7 prohibiting certain actions by the Department of
Human Services; providing certain construction;
8 authorizing certain claim in specified proceedings;
providing for codification; and providing an
9 effective date.

10
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-8-113 of Title 10A, unless
14 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. The Department of Human Services shall not:

16 1. Require, as a condition for eligibility to foster or adopt,
17 any current or prospective adoptive or foster parent to affirm,
18 accept, or support any government policy regarding sexual
19 orientation or gender identity that conflicts with the parent's
20 sincerely held religious or moral beliefs;

21 2. Deny a current or prospective adoptive or foster parent any
22 authorization necessary to be eligible to foster or adopt based, in
23 whole or in part, upon the parent's sincerely held religious or
24 moral beliefs regarding sexual orientation or gender identity; or

1 3. Establish or enforce any standard, rule, or policy that
2 precludes consideration of a current or prospective adoptive or
3 foster parent for any particular placement based, in whole or in
4 part, upon the parent's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs
5 regarding sexual orientation or gender identity. Such beliefs shall
6 not create a presumption that any particular placement is contrary
7 to the best interest of the child.

8 B. Nothing in this section shall:

9 1. Preclude the Department from taking into account the
10 religious or moral beliefs of a particular adoptive or foster child,
11 or his or her family of origin, when determining the most
12 appropriate placement for the child; or

13 2. Be construed to prohibit the Department from making, or
14 relieve the Department of its duty to make, individual placements
15 consistent with the best interests of the child as otherwise
16 required by law.

17 C. A current or prospective adoptive or foster parent aggrieved
18 by a violation of this section may raise a claim in a judicial or
19 administrative proceeding and seek injunctive relief, compensatory
20 damages, reasonable attorney fees, or other appropriate relief.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

22
23 59-2-2783 DC 1/16/2024 2:23:20 PM