

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1677
Version:	ENGR
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Crosswhite Hader
Date:	3/28/2024
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

Engrossed Senate Bill 1677 prohibits the Department of Human Services from mandating foster or adoptive parents to affirm government policies on sexual orientation or gender identity that contradict their sincerely held religious or moral beliefs. It also prevents the denial of authorization for fostering or adopting based on such beliefs and prohibits the establishment of rules that exclude prospective parents based on their beliefs. However, it allows consideration of a child's religious or moral beliefs when determining placement and does not prevent the department from making placements in the child's best interest. Individuals who feel aggrieved by violations of this legislation can seek recourse through judicial or administrative channels.

Prepared By: Matthew Brenchley

Fiscal Analysis

SB 1677 provides that a current or prospective adoptive or foster parent may raise a claim, in a judicial or administrative proceeding seeking certain relief, if denied eligibility based on such parent's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs regarding sexual orientation or gender identity. While it is impossible to predict the extent of future legal claims, such claims pursuant to the measure would likely require administrative malfeasance by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS). Under the presumption that OKDHS will comply with the law, the measure is not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Zach Lein, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.