

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB1581 _____
Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Amendment submitted by: Mark Lawson _____

Adopted: _____

Reading Clerk

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 PROPOSED COMMITTEE
4 SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1581

By: Lawson

7
8 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to children; amending 10A O.S. 2021,
10 Sections 1-9-102, 1-9-103, 1-9-104, 1-9-104a, and 1-
11 9-104b, which relate to the Oklahoma Children's Code;
12 providing that the lead agency for child abuse
13 multidisciplinary review team shall be certified or
14 qualified; providing that the district attorney shall
15 choose and the team shall provide input and consent
16 for the lead agency; providing duties for the team;
17 updating references; providing that law enforcement
18 and staff shall conduct joint investigations;
19 modifying team functions; directing an entity to
20 review the teams; directing the Department of Human
21 Services to work in partnership with designated
22 entity; modifying terms relating to the Child Abuse
23 Multidisciplinary Team Account; authorizing certain
24 entity to administer certain funds; authorizing the
Department to contract with qualifying entity;
modifying who may promulgate rules; creating the
Oklahoma Multidisciplinary Team Council; providing
for membership; providing requirements for
membership; providing duties of Council; repealing
10A O.S. 2021, Sections 1-9-103a and 1-9-103b, which
relate to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
Account Fund; repealing 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-
227.9, which relates to the Child Abuse Training and
Coordination Council; providing for codification; and
providing an effective date.

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

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-102, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Section 1-9-102. A. 1. ~~In coordination with the Oklahoma~~
5 ~~Commission on Children and Youth, each~~ Each district attorney shall
6 develop a child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ review team in
7 each county of the district attorney or in a contiguous group of
8 counties.

9 2. The lead agency for the team shall be a certified child
10 advocacy center or another qualified agency chosen by the ~~members of~~
11 ~~the team~~ district attorney with input and consent from the child
12 abuse multidisciplinary team members. The team shall review,
13 provide input, and intervene in reports involving child sexual abuse
14 or child physical abuse or neglect.

15 B. The child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ team members
16 shall include, but not be limited to:

17 1. Mental health professionals licensed pursuant to the laws of
18 this state or licensed professional counselors;

19 2. Police officers or other law enforcement agents with a role
20 in, or experience or training in child abuse and neglect
21 investigation;

22 3. Medical personnel with experience in child abuse and neglect
23 identification;

24

1 4. Child protective services workers within the Department of
2 Human Services;

3 5. ~~Multidisciplinary child~~ Child abuse multidisciplinary team
4 coordinators, or Child Advocacy Center personnel; and

5 6. The district attorney or assistant district attorney.

6 C. 1. ~~To the extent that resources are available to each of~~
7 ~~the various multidisciplinary child abuse teams throughout the~~
8 ~~state, the~~ The functions of the team shall include, but not be
9 limited to, the following specific functions:

10 a. ~~whenever feasible,~~ law enforcement and child welfare
11 staff shall conduct joint investigations ~~in an effort~~
12 ~~to effectively respond to child abuse reports , as~~
13 outlined in each written protocol in a timely manner,
14 into reports of child sexual and physical abuse or
15 neglect,

16 b. develop or adopt a written protocol for investigating
17 child sexual abuse and child physical abuse or neglect
18 cases ~~and for interviewing child victims. The purpose~~
19 ~~of the protocol shall be~~ to ensure coordination and
20 cooperation between all agencies involved so as to
21 increase the efficiency in handling such cases and to
22 minimize the stress created for the allegedly abused
23 child by the legal and investigatory process.—~~In~~
24 ~~addition, each team shall develop confidentiality~~

1 ~~statements and interagency agreements signed by member~~
2 ~~agencies that specify the cooperative effort of the~~
3 ~~member agencies to the team,~~

4 c. ~~increase communication and collaboration among the~~
5 ~~professionals responsible for the reporting,~~
6 ~~investigation, prosecution and treatment of child~~
7 ~~abuse and neglect cases,~~

8 d. ~~eliminate duplicative efforts in the investigation and~~
9 ~~the prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases,~~

10 e. ~~identify gaps in service or all untapped resources~~
11 ~~within the community to improve the delivery of~~
12 ~~services to the victim and family~~ develop or adopt a
13 written protocol for interviewing children involved in
14 investigations and the use of child advocacy centers
15 for forensic interviews,

16 d. develop or adopt confidentiality statements and
17 interagency agreements signed by member agencies that
18 specify the cooperative effort of the member agencies
19 to the team,

20 e. identify gaps in service or all untapped resources
21 within the community to improve the delivery of
22 services to the victim and family,

23 f. ~~encourage the development of~~ develop expertise through
24 training. Each team member and those conducting child

1 abuse investigations and interviews of child abuse
2 victims shall be trained in the multidisciplinary team
3 approach, conducting legally sound and age-appropriate
4 interviews, effective investigation techniques and
5 joint investigations as provided through ~~the State~~
6 ~~Department of Health, the Commission on Children and~~
7 ~~Youth~~ a nationally accredited association of Child
8 Advocacy Centers, or other resources as approved by
9 the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council,

10 g. ~~formalize~~ adopt a standardized case review process ~~and~~
11 ~~provide data as requested to the Commission for~~
12 ~~freestanding teams, and~~

13 h. ~~standardize investigative procedures for the handling~~
14 ~~of child abuse and neglect cases~~ provide data as
15 requested to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
16 Council.

17 2. All investigations of child sexual abuse and child physical
18 abuse or neglect and interviews of child abuse or neglect victims
19 shall be carried out by appropriate personnel using the protocols
20 and procedures specified in this section.

21 3. ~~If trained personnel are not available in a timely fashion~~
22 ~~and, in the judgment of a law enforcement officer or the Department~~
23 ~~of Human Services, there is reasonable cause to believe a delay in~~
24 ~~investigation or interview of the child victim could place the child~~

1 ~~in jeopardy of harm or threatened harm to a child's health or~~
2 ~~welfare, the investigation may proceed without full participation of~~
3 ~~all personnel. This authority applies only for as long as~~
4 ~~reasonable danger to the child exists. A reasonable effort to find~~
5 ~~and provide a trained investigator or interviewer shall be made.~~

6 4. ~~Freestanding multidisciplinary child~~ Child abuse
7 multidisciplinary teams shall be ~~approved~~ reviewed by ~~the Commission~~
8 an entity identified as a nationally accredited association of
9 Children's Advocacy Centers in partnership with the Child Abuse
10 Multidisciplinary Team Council. ~~The Commission shall conduct an An~~
11 annual review of ~~freestanding~~ child abuse multidisciplinary teams
12 shall be conducted to ensure that the teams are functioning
13 effectively. Teams not meeting the minimal standards as promulgated
14 by ~~the Commission~~ the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council
15 shall be removed from the list of functioning teams in the state.

16 D. 1. A multidisciplinary child abuse team may enter into an
17 agreement with the Child Death Review Board within the Oklahoma
18 Commission on Children and Youth and, in accordance with rules
19 promulgated by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth,
20 conduct case reviews of deaths and near deaths of children within
21 the geographical area of that multidisciplinary child abuse team.

22 2. Any child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ team reviewing
23 deaths and near deaths of children shall prepare and make available
24 to the public, on an annual basis, a report containing a summary of

1 the activities of the team relating to the review of the deaths and
2 near deaths of children and a summary of the extent to which the
3 state child protection system is coordinating with foster care and
4 adoption programs and whether the state is efficiently discharging
5 its child protection responsibilities. The report shall be
6 completed no later than December 31 of each year.

7 E. Nothing in this section shall preclude the use of hospital
8 team reviews for client-specific purposes and multidisciplinary
9 teams, either of which were in existence prior to July 1, 1995;
10 provided, however, such teams shall not be subject to the provisions
11 of paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section.

12 F. ~~1.~~ Child advocacy centers shall be classified, based on the
13 child population of a district attorney's district, as follows:

14 a. ~~nonurban~~

15 1. Nonurban centers in districts with child populations that
16 are less than sixty thousand (60,000) ~~and~~

17 b. ~~midlevel~~

18 2. Midlevel nonurban centers in districts with child
19 populations equal to or greater than sixty thousand (60,000), but
20 not including Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties ~~and~~

21 c. ~~urban~~

22 3. Urban centers in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties.

23 ~~2. The multidisciplinary child abuse team used by the child~~
24 ~~advocacy center for its accreditation shall meet the criteria~~

1 ~~required by a national association of child advocacy centers and, in~~
2 ~~addition, the team shall:~~

- 3 a. ~~choose a lead agency for the team,~~
- 4 b. ~~intervene in reports involving child sexual abuse and~~
5 ~~may intervene in child physical abuse or neglect,~~
- 6 c. ~~promote the joint investigation of child abuse reports~~
7 ~~between law enforcement and child welfare staff, and~~
- 8 d. ~~formalize standardized investigative procedures for~~
9 ~~the handling of child abuse and neglect cases.~~

10 G. ~~Multidisciplinary child abuse~~ Child abuse multidisciplinary
11 teams and child advocacy centers shall have full access to any
12 service or treatment plan and any personal data known to the
13 Department which is directly related to the implementation of this
14 section.

15 H. Each member of the team shall be responsible for protecting
16 the confidentiality of the child and any information made available
17 to such person as a member of the team. The child abuse
18 multidisciplinary team and any information received by the team
19 shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections 301 through 314 of
20 Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes and Sections 24A.1 through 24A.31
21 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

22 ~~I. All freestanding child abuse teams and child advocacy~~
23 ~~centers shall establish annual membership with Children's Advocacy~~
24 ~~Centers of Oklahoma, Inc., and remain members in good standing.~~

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-103, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 1-9-103. A. 1. There is hereby created in the
4 Department of Human Services a revolving fund to be designated the
5 "Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account".

6 2. The account shall be a continuing fund, not subject to
7 fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by
8 the Department pursuant to the provisions of this section and
9 Section 1-9-104 of this title.

10 3. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby
11 appropriated and shall be budgeted and expended by the Department
12 for the purposes provided in Sections 1-9-102 and 1-9-104 of this
13 title.

14 4. Expenditures from the account shall be made upon warrants
15 issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by
16 law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise
17 Services for approval and payment.

18 B. The account shall be administered by the Department for the
19 benefit of children of Oklahoma and made available to eligible:

- 20 1. ~~Coordinated~~ Functioning multidisciplinary child abuse teams;
21 2. Nonurban child advocacy centers;
22 3. Mid-level nonurban child advocacy centers; and
23 4. Urban child advocacy centers.

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1 C. 1. The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account shall consist
2 of:

3 a. all monies received by the Department pursuant to the
4 provisions of Section 1-9-104 of this title,

5 b. interest attributable to investment of money in the
6 Account, and

7 c. money received by the Department in the form of gifts,
8 grants, reimbursements, or from any other source
9 intended to be used for the purposes specified or
10 collected pursuant to the provisions of this section
11 and Section 1-9-102 of this title.

12 2. The monies deposited in the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
13 Account shall at no time become monies of the state and shall not
14 become part of the general budget of the Department or any other
15 state agency. Except as otherwise authorized by this section and
16 Section 1-9-104 of this title, no monies from the Account shall be
17 transferred for any purpose to any other state agency or any account
18 of the Department or be used for the purpose of contracting with any
19 other state agency or reimbursing any other state agency for any
20 expense.

21 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104, is
22 amended to read as follows:

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1 Section 1-9-104. A. The Department of Human Services in
2 partnership with a designated entity shall allocate monies available
3 in the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account (CAMA) to:

4 1. ~~The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account (CAMTA) Fund~~
5 ~~created by Section 1-9-103a of this title. Monies made available to~~
6 ~~the CAMTA shall be used for the purposes of funding one One~~
7 ~~functioning freestanding child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~~~
8 ~~team in each county of this state, utilizing the funding~~
9 ~~distributions as provided in subsection B of this section, certified~~
10 ~~by the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council;~~

11 2. One hospital team pursuant to subsection E of Section 1-9-
12 102 of this title; and

13 3. One child advocacy center, accredited by the National
14 Children's Alliance, per district attorney's district. A child
15 advocacy center shall:

16 a. be eligible for Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account
17 (CAMA) funding upon accreditation by the National
18 Children's Alliance,

19 b. secure a third-year interim review to determine
20 whether the child advocacy center continues to meet
21 the National Children's Alliance standards in effect
22 at the time of its last accreditation. If a child
23 advocacy center fails the third-year review, the
24 center shall remain eligible for CAMA funding, but

1 shall have another review conducted in the fourth
2 year. If the child advocacy center fails the fourth-
3 year review, the center shall be ineligible to receive
4 CAMA funding until such time as the center receives
5 reaccreditation from the National Children's Alliance,
6 and

7 c. remain the center for the district attorney's district
8 as long as the center is accredited and eligibility is
9 maintained pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-9-
10 102 of this title. If a center does not remain
11 eligible pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-9-102
12 of this title, endorsement by the district attorney as
13 the child advocacy center for the district may be
14 sought by any entity beginning with the calendar year
15 after the center is determined to be ineligible. The
16 two centers in district number (4) and district number
17 (13) that were accredited as of May 17, 2005, shall
18 continue to receive funding at the nonurban level.
19 Should one of the exempted centers close or no longer
20 meet the criteria for a child advocacy center pursuant
21 to the provisions of Section 1-9-102 of this title,
22 the center shall not be allowed to reopen in that
23 district or to receive CAMA funds. The remaining
24

1 center shall become the sole child advocacy center for
2 the district attorney's district.

3 B. Funding distribution pursuant to the provisions of this
4 section shall be determined:

5 1. By multiplying the number of applicants in each category by
6 the corresponding weight as follows:

- 7 a. ~~freestanding~~ functioning child abuse multidisciplinary
8 ~~child abuse~~ team - 1,
- 9 b. hospital team - 1,
- 10 c. nonurban centers - 4,
- 11 d. mid-level nonurban centers - 6, and
- 12 e. urban centers - 24;

13 2. Adding together the weighted results for all categories;

14 3. Dividing the weighted result for each category by the sum of
15 the weighted results for all categories; and

16 4. Equally distributing funding to each applicant in the
17 corresponding category based on the amounts obtained by multiplying

18 the total available funding by the calculated percentages. ~~The~~

19 ~~total amount for all freestanding multidisciplinary teams as~~

20 ~~determined by the formula provided in this subsection shall be~~

21 ~~transferred to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account~~

22 ~~(CAMTA) Fund established by Section 1-9-103a of this title and~~

23 ~~contracts with each freestanding multidisciplinary team shall be~~

24 ~~completed no later than January 1 of each year.~~

1 ~~During state fiscal year 2019, the Oklahoma Commission on Children~~
2 ~~and Youth may disburse to each freestanding multidisciplinary team~~
3 ~~the remaining contracted amount of the freestanding~~
4 ~~multidisciplinary team award. The freestanding multidisciplinary~~
5 ~~team shall provide the Commission with monthly documentation of~~
6 ~~expenses as well as activity data and continue providing such~~
7 ~~documentation thereafter. Beginning January 1, 2020, and each year~~
8 ~~thereafter, the Commission may disburse the contracted amount at the~~
9 ~~beginning of the calendar year to freestanding multidisciplinary~~
10 ~~teams that are functioning effectively as determined by the~~
11 ~~Commission pursuant to Section 1-9-102 of this title.~~

12 C. By January 31, ~~2003~~ 2026, and by January 31 of each year
13 thereafter, the Department shall partner with a designated entity to
14 disburse monies from the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account to
15 eligible child abuse multidisciplinary teams and child advocacy
16 centers. A child abuse multidisciplinary team or child advocacy
17 center shall be in compliance with the provisions of Section 1-9-102
18 of this title to be eligible for Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
19 Account funding. The disbursement shall be a single, annual
20 disbursement, for the collection period of the preceding year
21 beginning October 1 through September 30.

22 D. ~~A report issued by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and~~
23 ~~Youth to the Oklahoma Legislature outlining performance measures for~~
24 ~~all multidisciplinary teams, including those associated with child~~

1 ~~advocacy centers, and recommendations on the funding formula~~
2 ~~provided for in this section shall be transmitted to the Oklahoma~~
3 ~~Legislature no later than December 31, 2017.~~ The Department, the
4 ~~Commission, and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma, Inc.,~~
5 and the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall meet
6 annually to review and certify the amount of CAMA ~~and CAMTA~~ funds to
7 be disbursed.

8 E. ~~A child advocacy center may carry over funding for a period~~
9 ~~of one (1) year after allocation, such one-year period to begin in~~
10 ~~January and end in December of the same year; provided, however,~~
11 ~~funds not used within twenty-four (24) months of the original~~
12 ~~allocation will be deducted from the contract amount for the next~~
13 ~~contract year. If a center is ineligible for funding in an upcoming~~
14 ~~year, unused funds from the current or previous years shall be~~
15 ~~returned to the CAMA Fund for use in subsequent years. Funds not~~
16 ~~used by a freestanding team by the end of the contract period shall~~
17 ~~revert to, and be deposited in, the CAMA Fund~~ A child abuse
18 multidisciplinary team or child advocacy center may carry over
19 funding for a period of one (1) year after allocation, such one-year
20 period to begin in January and end in December of the same year;
21 provided, however, funds not used within twenty-four (24) months of
22 the original allocation shall be returned to the CAMA account. If a
23 child abuse multidisciplinary team or child advocacy center is
24 ineligible for funding in an upcoming year, unused funds from the

1 current or previous years shall be returned to the CAMA account for
2 use in subsequent years.

3 F. ~~The Commission is hereby authorized to receive five percent~~
4 ~~(5.0%) in administrative costs from the CAMTA Fund.~~ The Department
5 of Human Services is hereby authorized to receive one-half of one
6 percent (0.5%) in administrative costs from the CAMA fund. In
7 partnership with the Department, an eligible entity identified as a
8 nationally accredited association of Children's Advocacy Centers is
9 hereby authorized to administer the CAMA fund.

10 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104a,
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 Section 1-9-104a. ~~The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth~~
13 ~~shall~~ Department of Human Services is hereby authorized to contract
14 with a qualifying entity identified as an association of nationally
15 accredited child advocacy centers to administer Child Abuse
16 Multidisciplinary Account funds and a qualifying entity identified
17 as an association of nationally accredited child advocacy centers is
18 authorized to contract with eligible providers as authorized by this
19 act.

20 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104b,
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 1-9-104b. ~~The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth~~
23 ~~and the Department of Human Services~~ Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
24

1 Team Council shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of
2 this act.

3 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-9-102a of Title 10A, unless
5 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. There is hereby created the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
7 Team Council.

8 B. The Oklahoma District Attorneys Council shall appoint a
9 Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council which shall be composed
10 of eight (8) members, as follows:

11 1. One member shall be a representative of child welfare
12 services within the Department of Human Services;

13 2. One member shall be a representative of the District
14 Attorneys Council;

15 3. One member shall be a representative of the Council on Law
16 Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET);

17 4. One member shall be a representative of an entity identified
18 as an association of nationally accredited child advocacy centers;

19 5. One member shall be a representative of a statewide medical
20 association and shall be a member of a state chapter of a national
21 academy of pediatrics;

22 6. One member shall be a representative of an Indian child
23 welfare association;

24

1 7. One member shall be a representative of an advisory task
2 force on child abuse and neglect; and

3 8. One member shall be a representative of the Oklahoma
4 Commission on Children and Youth.

5 C. Each member of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
6 Council is authorized to have one designee.

7 D. The appointed members shall be persons having expertise in
8 multidisciplinary team joint investigation and the dynamics,
9 identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and child
10 sexual abuse.

11 E. The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall:

12 1. Establish objective criteria and guidelines for
13 multidisciplinary investigations and, as appropriate for each
14 discipline, discipline-specific training on child abuse and neglect
15 for professionals with responsibilities affecting children, youth,
16 and families;

17 2. Review curricula and make recommendations to state agencies,
18 professional organizations, and associations regarding available
19 curricula and curricula having high standards of professional merit;

20 3. Review curricula regarding child abuse and neglect used in
21 law enforcement officer training by CLEET and make recommendations
22 regarding the curricula to CLEET;

23 4. Cooperate with and assist professional organizations and
24 associations in the development and implementation of ongoing

1 training programs and strategies to encourage professionals to
2 participate in such training programs;

3 5. Make reports and recommendations regarding the continued
4 development and improvement of multidisciplinary team joint
5 investigations to the Oklahoma legislature;

6 6. Prepare and issue a model protocol for multidisciplinary
7 teams regarding the investigation and prosecution of child sexual
8 abuse, child physical abuse, and neglect cases;

9 7. Review and approve protocols prepared by the local child
10 abuse multidisciplinary teams;

11 8. Advise multidisciplinary teams on team development;

12 9. Determine data collection protocol and collect data on the
13 operation and cases reviewed by the child abuse multidisciplinary
14 teams;

15 10. Collect data from the Oklahoma Commission on Children and
16 Youth Child Death Review Board and Post Adjudication Review Board;

17 11. Issue annual reports;

18 12. Annually approve the list of functioning multidisciplinary
19 teams in the state; and

20 13. Meet annually with the Department, Children's Advocacy
21 Centers of Oklahoma, Inc., and the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
22 Team Council to review and certify the amount of CAMA funds to be
23 disbursed.

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SECTION 7. REPEALER 10A O.S. 2021, Sections 1-9-103a and
1-9-103b, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 8. REPEALER 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-227.9, is
hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

60-1-12882 CMA 02/26/25