

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1968

By: Williams

6  
7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 [ Pardon and Parole Board - members - Chair -

9 training - compensation - voting - effective date ]

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.1, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 332.1. A. The Pardon and Parole Board created by  
16 Article VI, Section 10, of the Oklahoma Constitution is authorized  
17 to employ professional investigators and such clerical and  
18 administrative personnel as may be required to carry out the duties  
19 and responsibilities under the provisions of this act.

20 B. The Pardon and Parole Board shall be authorized to employ  
21 alternate members to serve on the Board.

22 C. The Chair of the Pardon and Parole Board may assign  
23 alternate members to serve in the absence of a regular member and  
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1 such alternate members shall have all the powers and authority of a  
2 regular Pardon and Parole Board member when so assigned.

3 D. Alternate members of the Board shall be appointed as  
4 follows:

5 1. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
6 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and shall have a minimum of not  
7 less than five (5) years of experience as a former prosecutor;

8 2. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
9 Presiding Judge of the Criminal Court of Appeals and shall have a  
10 minimum of:

11 a. not less than five (5) years of experience as a former  
12 public defender, or

13 b. not less than ten (10) years of experience handling  
14 felony criminal cases as a defense attorney;

15 3. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
16 Governor and shall be a former judge of the Oklahoma Court of  
17 Criminal Appeals or a former judge of a district court who presided  
18 over a criminal court docket;

19 4. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
20 Governor and shall be a licensed mental health professional with  
21 expertise in offender rehabilitation; and

22 5. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
23 Governor and shall have a minimum of not less than five (5) years of  
24 experience as a parole officer or corrections officer.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.1A, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 332.1A. A. Each member and each alternate member of  
4 the Pardon and Parole Board shall receive at least twelve (12) hours  
5 of training for the first year and six (6) hours of training per  
6 year thereafter on matters relating to the duties of the Board. The  
7 training shall be provided by personnel of the Pardon and Parole  
8 Board.

9 B. Each member and each alternate member of the Pardon and  
10 Parole Board shall complete annual training based on guidance from  
11 organizations that provide training and technical assistance related  
12 to the probation and parole process. Annual training curriculum  
13 shall include, but not be limited to, identifying, understanding and  
14 targeting criminogenic needs, the principles of effective  
15 intervention, core correctional practices and how to support and  
16 encourage offender behavior change.

17 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.4, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 332.4. A. Upon the effective date of this act, members  
20 of the Pardon and Parole Board shall be deemed regular full-time,  
21 salaried employees of the Pardon and Parole Board.

22 B. The Chair of the Pardon and Parole Board shall be selected  
23 by the Board. ~~The Chair of the Pardon and Parole Board shall~~  
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1 ~~receive Twenty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$24,800.00) per~~  
2 ~~annum, payable monthly, in the following allotment:~~

3 ~~1. Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) for preparation for said~~  
4 ~~meeting; and~~

5 ~~2. One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-seven Dollars (\$1,667.00) for~~  
6 ~~the regular monthly Board meeting.~~

7 B. C. 1. The members of the Board shall receive ~~Twenty-two~~  
8 ~~Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$22,800.00)~~ a salary of Eighty-five  
9 Thousand Dollars (\$85,000.00) per annum, payable monthly ~~in the~~  
10 ~~following allotment:~~

11 ~~1. Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) for preparation for said~~  
12 ~~meeting; and~~

13 ~~2. One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for the~~  
14 ~~regular monthly Board meeting.~~

15 2. The alternate members of the Board shall receive a salary of  
16 Forty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$42,500.00) per annum,  
17 payable monthly.

18 C. D. 1. Failure of any member to attend ~~one~~ two Board ~~meeting~~  
19 meetings in any calendar year, except for justifiable excuse as  
20 determined by the Chair pursuant to written policy established by  
21 the Board, shall preclude the right of the member to receive his or  
22 her monthly compensation established by subsection ~~A or~~ B of this  
23 section.

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1           2. In addition, any member who fails to attend ~~two~~ three or  
2 more Board meetings in any calendar year except for extraordinary  
3 circumstances as determined by the Chair pursuant to written policy  
4 established by the Board shall be deemed to have committed official  
5 misconduct as such term is defined by Section 93 of Title 51 of the  
6 Oklahoma Statutes. To initiate a removal from office pursuant to  
7 this paragraph, the Board shall pass a resolution by a majority of  
8 the members of the Board detailing the alleged misconduct. Such  
9 removal shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 3 of Title 51  
10 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

11           3. Failure to attend meetings of the Board, pursuant to the  
12 policy established by the Board, shall constitute cause for removal  
13 pursuant to Section 10 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution.

14           SECTION 4.           AMENDATORY           57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.15, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16           Section 332.15. A. From and after the effective date of this  
17 act, no member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole Board  
18 ~~and/or~~ or their law firm or law partners or associate may represent  
19 in a legal capacity any inmate incarcerated in any state penal  
20 institution. If a member or alternate member of the Pardon and  
21 Parole Board, or his or her law partners or associate or any member  
22 of his or her law firm undertakes the representation of an inmate in  
23 violation of this prohibition, the member or alternate member of the  
24 Board shall forfeit his or her office. In any case in which an

1 inmate requesting a pardon or parole was represented in a legal  
2 capacity by any member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole  
3 Board ~~and/or~~ or their law firm or law partners or associate prior to  
4 imposition of a prison term, the Board member or alternate Board  
5 member who represented such inmate shall be disqualified from voting  
6 on ~~such inmate's~~ the request of the inmate for a pardon or parole.

7 B. A member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole Board  
8 shall uphold and promote the independence, impartiality, fairness,  
9 and integrity of the Board, and should avoid impropriety or the  
10 appearance of impropriety.

11 C. If any Pardon and Parole Board member or alternate member  
12 determines circumstances would cause a reasonable person with  
13 knowledge of all the relevant facts to question his or her  
14 impartiality in a specific matter, or creates the appearance of  
15 impropriety, the Pardon and Parole Board member shall disclose any  
16 potential conflict of interest and shall withdraw from participation  
17 in the matter.

18 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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20 60-1-13257 JM 03/06/25  
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