

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION  
4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1968

6 By: Williams

7  
8  
9 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

10 An Act relating to the Pardon and Parole Board;  
11 amending 57 O.S. 2021, Sections 332.1, 332.1A, 332.4  
12 and 332.15, which relate to powers, duties and  
13 compensation of Pardon and Parole Board members;  
14 authorizing the Pardon and Parole Board to employ  
15 alternate members; allowing the Chair of the Board to  
16 assign alternate members under certain circumstances;  
17 granting alternate members the same power and  
18 authority as regular members; providing for the  
19 appointment of alternate members; requiring alternate  
20 members to receive training; deeming members and  
21 alternate members full-time salaried employees of the  
22 Board; establishing compensation amounts; increasing  
23 number of allowed meeting absences; prohibiting  
24 alternate members from representing or voting on  
certain matters before the Board; and providing an  
effective date.

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

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

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

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

8 C. The Chair of the Pardon and Parole Board may assign  
9 alternate members to serve in the absence of a regular member and  
10 such alternate members shall have all the powers and authority of a  
11 regular Pardon and Parole Board member when so assigned.

12 D. Alternate members of the Board shall be appointed as  
13 follows:

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

17 2. One alternate member of the Board shall be appointed by the  
18 Presiding Judge of the Criminal Court of Appeals and shall have a  
19 minimum of:

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

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

24

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

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

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

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

13       Section 332.1A. A. Each member and each alternate member of  
14 the Pardon and Parole Board shall receive at least twelve (12) hours  
15 of training for the first year and six (6) hours of training per  
16 year thereafter on matters relating to the duties of the Board. The  
17 training shall be provided by personnel of the Pardon and Parole  
18 Board.

19       B. Each member and each alternate member of the Pardon and  
20 Parole Board shall complete annual training based on guidance from  
21 organizations that provide training and technical assistance related  
22 to the probation and parole process. Annual training curriculum  
23 shall include, but not be limited to, identifying, understanding and  
24 targeting criminogenic needs, the principles of effective

1 intervention, core correctional practices and how to support and  
2 encourage offender behavior change.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24

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

4        ~~C.~~ D. 1. Failure of any member to attend ~~one~~ two Board ~~meeting~~  
5 meetings in any calendar year, except for justifiable excuse as  
6 determined by the Chair pursuant to written policy established by  
7 the Board, shall preclude the right of the member to receive his or  
8 her monthly compensation established by subsection ~~A or~~ B of this  
9 section.

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

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

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

1 Section 332.15. A. From and after the effective date of this  
2 act, no member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole Board  
3 ~~and/or~~ or their law firm or law partners or associate may represent  
4 in a legal capacity any inmate incarcerated in any state penal  
5 institution. If a member or alternate member of the Pardon and  
6 Parole Board, or his or her law partners or associate or any member  
7 of his or her law firm undertakes the representation of an inmate in  
8 violation of this prohibition, the member or alternate member of the  
9 Board shall forfeit his or her office. In any case in which an  
10 inmate requesting a pardon or parole was represented in a legal  
11 capacity by any member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole  
12 Board ~~and/or~~ or their law firm or law partners or associate prior to  
13 imposition of a prison term, the Board member or alternate Board  
14 member who represented such inmate shall be disqualified from voting  
15 on ~~such inmate's~~ the request of the inmate for a pardon or parole.

16 B. A member or alternate member of the Pardon and Parole Board  
17 shall uphold and promote the independence, impartiality, fairness,  
18 and integrity of the Board, and should avoid impropriety or the  
19 appearance of impropriety.

20 C. If any Pardon and Parole Board member or alternate member  
21 determines circumstances would cause a reasonable person with  
22 knowledge of all the relevant facts to question his or her  
23 impartiality in a specific matter, or creates the appearance of  
24 impropriety, the Pardon and Parole Board member shall disclose any

1 potential conflict of interest and shall withdraw from participation  
2 in the matter.

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

4

5 60-1-12741 GRS 02/20/25

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24