

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE BILL 1909

By: Alonso-Sandoval

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to committees, councils, and task  
8 forces; enacting the Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council  
9 Act; creating the Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council;  
10 providing purpose; providing for membership on the  
11 Council; providing qualifications for membership;  
12 directing Senator to appoint member; providing for  
13 appointments; directing Council to develop  
14 application process; providing for diversity;  
15 providing term length; providing duties and  
16 responsibilities; providing meeting frequency;  
17 directing Council to file annual reports; providing  
18 information reports shall contain; creating the  
19 Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council Review Committee;  
20 providing for membership; providing for appointment  
21 of chair and vice-chair; providing meeting  
22 requirements; providing for codification; and  
23 providing an effective date.  
24

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

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 191 of Title 10, unless there is  
21 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Youth  
23 Advisory Council Act".  
24

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 192 of Title 10, unless there is  
3 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created the Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council to  
5 serve as a dynamic platform for young people to examine, evaluate,  
6 and discuss the issues, interests, and needs that impact Oklahoma  
7 youth both now and in the future. The Council shall formally advise  
8 and make actionable recommendations to elected officials on these  
9 matters, ensuring that the voices of Oklahoma's youth are  
10 meaningfully incorporated into public policy. The issues may  
11 include, but need not be limited to, education, employment, and  
12 economic opportunity, access to state and local government services,  
13 the environment, behavioral and physical health, safe environments  
14 for youth, substance abuse, poverty, and increased youth  
15 participation in state and local government.

16 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 193 of Title 10, unless there is  
18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. The Council shall consist of fifty-three (53) members as  
20 follows:

21 1. Forty-eight members representing each of the Oklahoma Senate  
22 districts; and

23 2. Five at-large members representing the federally recognized  
24 Indian tribal governments within the State of Oklahoma.

1 B. Members shall meet the following qualifications at the time  
2 of appointment:

3 1. Be at least fourteen (14) years of age but not older than  
4 nineteen (19) years of age; and

5 2. Be enrolled in their sophomore, junior, or senior year  
6 attending an Oklahoma high school, including an online or charter  
7 school, participating in a nonpublic, home-based educational  
8 program, participating in a general equivalency degree program, or  
9 have obtained a high school or general equivalency diploma.

10 C. 1. On or before November 1, 2025, each Senator elected to  
11 represent a Senate District in the state may appoint one Council  
12 member from his or her district.

13 2. The five at-large members representing the federally  
14 recognized Indian tribal governments shall be selected to help  
15 ensure diversity on the Council, with an express concern for  
16 adequate Native American representation.

17 D. 1. On or before August 31, the Council members shall  
18 approve subsequent appointments to the Council by a majority vote.  
19 A youth who meets the criteria set forth in subsection B of this  
20 section may apply to the Council to be considered for participation  
21 in the Council.

22 2. The Council shall utilize an application process to  
23 facilitate Council appointments, including the content and  
24

1 availability of the application form, additional selection criteria,  
2 and an application review process.

3 E. Every effort shall be made to create a Council that  
4 represents the diversity of the youth of the state.

5 F. Legislative members of the Council shall be appointed as  
6 follows:

7 1. Every legislative session, the Speaker and Minority Leader  
8 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives shall each appoint one  
9 member from the House of Representatives; and

10 2. Every legislative session, the President Pro-Tempore and  
11 Minority Leader of the Oklahoma State Senate shall each appoint one  
12 member from the Senate.

13 G. The Council may appoint members to serve in any leadership  
14 roles described in its bylaws.

15 H. A vacancy on the Council shall be filled through a vote of  
16 the members for the remainder of the unexpired term. Vacancies of  
17 nonlegislative members on the Council shall be filled pursuant to  
18 the application process described in subsection D of this section.  
19 Vacancies of legislative members shall be filled by the appointing  
20 authority. Vacancies of nonlegislative members on the Council who  
21 are not designated as at-large members shall be filled by a youth  
22 coming from the same Senate district as the departing nonlegislative  
23 member.

24

1           SECTION 4.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 194 of Title 10, unless there is  
3 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4           A. The Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council shall have the following  
5 duties and responsibilities:

6           1. Adopt written bylaws setting forth a leadership structure  
7 for the Council, which may be amended if necessary;

8           2. Work with any existing and appropriate local and state youth  
9 groups to identify the concerns and needs of youth in Oklahoma;

10          3. Advise and make oral and written recommendations to members  
11 of the Oklahoma Legislature on proposed or pending legislation;

12          4. Work with any existing and appropriate local and state youth  
13 groups to collect, analyze, and provide information on issues  
14 related to youth to the legislative committees, commissions, task  
15 forces, and state agencies and departments as appropriate;

16          5. Consult with any existing local-level youth advisory  
17 Councils for input and potential solutions on issues related to  
18 youth; and

19          6. Set priorities and establish any committees that may be  
20 necessary to achieve the goals of the Council.

21          B. 1. At the first meeting, the Council shall determine the  
22 location and time of future meetings, as well as any other  
23 procedural issues it deems necessary.

24

1           2. The Council shall meet at least four times each year, with  
2 two meetings occurring during the regular legislative session and  
3 two meetings occurring after the regular legislative session has  
4 concluded. Council members may attend and participate in Council  
5 meetings remotely, but at least two of the Council's meetings each  
6 year shall be held in person with all attending members at the same  
7 physical location. Additional meetings may be held at the  
8 discretion of Council leadership, subject to available funds.

9           3. All meetings of the Council shall be open to the public.

10          4. The Council has the authority to develop rules and  
11 procedures to govern its activities.

12          C. The Council shall utilize news outlets and publications,  
13 public awareness campaigns, and a website to develop and maintain  
14 regular communication concerning its activities with the youth of  
15 Oklahoma, the State of Oklahoma, and interested parties.

16          SECTION 5.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 195 of Title 10, unless there is  
18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19          A. The Council shall report to the Review Committee during each  
20 interim that the Review Committee meets.

21          B. The reports shall include, but shall not be limited to:

22            1. A summary of the Council's recommendations concerning key  
23 issues for youth including any proposals for legislation the Council  
24 would like the Review Committee to consider; and

1           2. A summary of the Council's work during the prior year.

2           SECTION 6.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
3 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 196 of Title 10, unless there is  
4 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

5           A. The Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council Review Committee is  
6 hereby created to review the work of the Oklahoma Youth Advisory  
7 Council and to recommend legislation affecting Oklahoma youth.

8           B. The Review Committee shall be comprised of the legislative  
9 members of the Council, five nonlegislative Council members who are  
10 appointed by the Council, and one legislative member appointed by  
11 the legislative members of the Council.

12           1. The five legislative members of the Review Committee shall  
13 serve as voting members. All other members are nonvoting members.

14           2. In odd-numbered years, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of  
15 Representatives shall appoint the chair of the Review Committee and  
16 the President Pro-Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate shall appoint  
17 the vice-chair. In even-numbered years, the President Pro-Tempore  
18 of the Oklahoma State Senate shall appoint the chair and the Speaker  
19 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives shall appoint the vice-  
20 chair.

21           C. The Review Committee may meet up to three times each interim  
22 and recommend up to six bills to the legislative Council based on  
23 the Council's recommendations and findings.

1 D. Meetings shall be held at the Oklahoma State Capitol or  
2 virtually, as determined by the Review Committee.

3 E. The Review Committee shall evaluate the Council's annual  
4 report and other work products.

5 F. All meetings of the Review Committee shall be open to the  
6 public.

7 SECTION 7. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

8

9 60-1-11183 CMA 01/15/25

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24