

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 1780

By: Treat of the Senate

3 and

4 Osburn of the House

5  
6 [ state government - Oklahoma Merit Protection  
7 Commission - sunset date - ~~effective date~~ -  
8 ~~emergency~~ ]

9  
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

11 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 840-1.7, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 840-1.7. A. There is hereby created until July 1,  
14 2021, the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission. Whenever the terms  
15 "Ethics and Merit Commission" or "Special Counsel of the Ethics and  
16 Merit Commission" appear in the Oklahoma Statutes, they shall mean  
17 the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission or the Executive Director  
18 of the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission as may be appropriate to  
19 the context in which they appear. The Oklahoma Merit Protection  
20 Commission shall consist of nine (9) members who shall be appointed  
21 for a term of three (3) years. The members shall be removable only  
22 for cause, as provided by law for the removal of officers not  
23 subject to impeachment. Two members of the Commission shall be  
24 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Two members

1 of the Commission shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
2 Representatives. Five members of the Commission shall be appointed  
3 by the Governor. No more than four of the appointments made by the  
4 Governor shall be from the same political party. Of the initial  
5 appointments made to the Commission, one member appointed by the  
6 President Pro Tempore, one member appointed by the Speaker and one  
7 member appointed by the Governor shall be for a term of three (3)  
8 years; and one member appointed by the President Pro Tempore, one  
9 member appointed by the Speaker and one member appointed by the  
10 Governor shall be for a term of two (2) years. The remaining three  
11 initial appointments by the Governor shall be designated to serve a  
12 term of one (1) year. At the expiration of the initial term, each  
13 new appointee shall serve a three-year term. All initial  
14 appointments shall be made prior to July 1, 1982.

15 B. Members of the Commission shall be entitled to reimbursement  
16 for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided  
17 in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

18 C. The Commission shall elect a ~~chairman~~ chair, to serve a two-  
19 year term and such other officers as deemed necessary for the  
20 performance of their duties. The Commission shall hold regular  
21 meetings not less than once a month and such additional meetings as  
22 called by the ~~chairman~~ chair as may be required for the proper  
23 discharge of its duties.

24 ~~SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.~~

~~SECTION 3.—It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.~~

Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 2020.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2020.

Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives