An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1520

By: Peterson and Kern of the House

and

Crain of the Senate

An Act relating to marriage and family; defining term; establishing disclosure requirements for court experts in proceedings involving children; providing parties an opportunity to object to the appointment of court experts in certain circumstances; and providing for codification.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 120.7 of Title 43, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section, "court expert" means a parenting coordinator, guardian ad litem, custody evaluator or any other person appointed by the court in a custody or visitation proceeding involving children.

B. Before the court appoints an individual as a court expert, the following disclosures shall be made by the candidate to the parties:

1. A disclosure of any prior relationships with any party, attorney or judge in the pending action;

2. A complete resume disclosing all personal and professional qualifications to serve as a court expert;

3. Any suspensions from practice, reprimands, or other formal punishments resulting from an adjudication of complaints filed against the person with the professional licensing board or other organization authorized to receive complaints regarding the performance of the individual in question; and

4. Any criminal convictions within the past ten (10) years and inclusion on any sexual offender list.

C. A party may file an objection to the appointment of a proposed court expert within fifteen (15) days after the receipt of the disclosures required by subsection B of this section. Upon filing an objection to the proposed court expert, the court shall set the matter for hearing. If requested, the party objecting to the appointment of the proposed court expert shall be entitled to discovery related to the qualifications and appropriateness of the proposed court expert prior to hearing.

Passed the House of Representatives the 3rd day of March, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 8th day of April, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Governor this 12th

day of April, **20**10,

at 2:54 **o'clock** P **M.**

By:

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma the 16th **day of**

April, **20**10, **at** 5:10 **o'clock** P. **M.**

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this

17th **day of** April, **20**10,

at 9:45 **o'clock** A **M.**

By: