

An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 941

By: Schulz of the Senate

and

Ortega and Biggs of the
House

An Act relating to restitution; amending 22 O.S. 2011, Section 991b, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 228, O.S.L. 2012 (22 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 991b), which relates to revocation of suspended sentence; modifying certain restitution requirement; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Restitution

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2011, Section 991b, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 228, O.S.L. 2012 (22 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 991b), is amended to read as follows:

Section 991b. A. Whenever a sentence has been suspended by the court after conviction of a person for any crime, the suspended sentence of the person may not be revoked, in whole or part, for any cause unless a petition setting forth the grounds for such revocation is filed by the district attorney with the clerk of the sentencing court and competent evidence justifying the revocation of the suspended sentence is presented to the court at a hearing to be held for that purpose within twenty (20) days after the entry of the plea of not guilty to the petition, unless waived by both the state and the defendant. The State of Oklahoma may dismiss the petition without prejudice one time upon good cause shown to the court, provided that any successor petition must be filed within forty-five (45) days of the date of the dismissal of the petition.

B. 1. The Department of Corrections shall develop a matrix of technical violations and sanctions to address violations committed by persons who are being supervised by the Department. The Department shall be authorized to use a violation response and intermediate sanction process based on the sanction matrix to apply to any technical violations of probationers. Within four (4) working days of the discovery of the violation, the probation officer shall initiate the violation response and intermediate sanction process. The sentencing judge may authorize any recommended sanctions, which may include, but are not limited to: short-term jail or lockup, day treatment, program attendance, community service, outpatient or inpatient treatment, monetary fines, curfews, ignition interlock devices on vehicles, or a one-time referral to a term of confinement of six (6) months in an intermediate revocation facility operated by the Department of Corrections; provided, upon approval of the district attorney, a person may be sanctioned to serve additional terms of confinement in an intermediate revocation facility. The probation officer shall complete a sanction form, which shall specify the technical violation, sanction, and the action plan to correct the noncompliant behavior resulting in the technical violation. The probation officer shall refer to the sanctioning matrix to determine the supervision, treatment, and sanctions appropriate to address the noncompliant behavior. The probation officer shall refer the violation information and recommended response with a sanction plan to the Department of Corrections to be heard by a hearing officer. The Department of Corrections shall develop a sanction matrix, forms, policies and procedures necessary to implement this provision. The Department of Corrections shall establish procedures to hear responses to technical violations and review sanction plans including the following:

- a. hearing officers shall report through a chain of command separate from that of the supervising probation officers,
- b. the Department shall provide the offender written notice of the violation, the evidence relied upon, and the reason the sanction was imposed,

- c. the hearing shall be held unless the offender waives the right to the hearing,
- d. hearings shall be electronically recorded, and
- e. the Department shall provide to judges and district attorneys a record of all violations and actions taken pursuant to this subsection.

2. The hearing officer shall determine based on a preponderance of the evidence whether a technical violation occurred. Upon a finding that a technical violation occurred, the hearing officer may order the offender to participate in the recommended sanction plan or may modify the plan. Offenders who accept the sanction plan shall sign a violation response sanction form, and the hearing officer shall then impose the sanction. Failure of the offender to comply with the imposed sanction plan shall constitute a violation of the rules and conditions of supervision that may result in a revocation proceeding. If an offender does not voluntarily accept the recommended sanction plan, the Department shall either impose the sanction and allow the offender to appeal to the district court, or request a revocation proceeding as provided by law. Every administrative hearing and sanction imposed by the Department shall be appealable to the district court.

C. 1. Where one of the grounds for revocation is the failure of the defendant to make restitution as ordered, the Department of Corrections shall forward to the district attorney all information pertaining to the failure of the defendant to make timely restitution as ordered by the court, and the district attorney shall file a petition setting forth the grounds for revocation.

2. The defendant ordered to make restitution can petition the court at any time for remission or a change in the terms of the order of restitution if the defendant undergoes a change of condition which materially affects the ability of the defendant to comply with the order of the court.

3. At the hearing, if one of the grounds for the petition for revocation is the failure of the defendant to make timely restitution as ordered by the court, the court will hear evidence and if it appears to the satisfaction of the court from such

evidence that the terms of the order of restitution create a manifest hardship on the defendant or the immediate family of the defendant, the court may cancel all or any part of the amount still due, or modify the terms or method of payment. Provided, if the court determines that a reduction in the restitution still due is warranted, the court shall equally apply the same percentage reduction to any court-ordered monetary obligation owed by the defendant including, but not limited to, fines, court costs and costs of incarceration.

D. The court may revoke a portion of the sentence and leave the remaining part not revoked, but suspended for the remainder of the term of the sentence, and under the provisions applying to it. The person whose suspended sentence is being considered for revocation at the hearing shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to present competent evidence in his or her own behalf and to be confronted by the witnesses against the defendant. Any order of the court revoking the suspended sentence, in whole or in part, shall be subject to review on appeal, as in other appeals of criminal cases. Provided, however, that if the crime for which the suspended sentence is given was a felony, the defendant may be allowed bail pending appeal. If the reason for revocation be that the defendant committed a felony, the defendant shall not be allowed bail pending appeal.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

Passed the Senate the 2nd day of March, 2016.

John W. Carl
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of April, 2016.

Randy Dean
Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 10th

day of April, 20 16, at 2:13 o'clock P M.

By: *Audrey Lockwell*

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 11th

day of April, 20 16, at 4:33 o'clock P M.

Mary Fallin
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 11th

day of April, 20 16, at 5:05 o'clock P M.

By: *Chris Benz*