An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2798

By: Kendrix of the House

and

Daniels of the Senate

An Act relating to sunset; amending 1 O.S. 2021, Section 22, which relates to the Oklahoma Abstractors Board; re-creating the Board; and modifying termination date.

SUBJECT: Sunset

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 1 O.S. 2021, Section 22, is amended to read as follows:

Section 22. A. There is hereby re-created to continue until July 1, ~~2023~~ 2026, in accordance with the Oklahoma Sunset Law, the Oklahoma Abstractors Board. Beginning January 1, 2008, the Oklahoma Abstractors Board shall have the total responsibility of administering and enforcing the Oklahoma Abstractors Act.

B. The Board shall have the power and duty to prescribe, promulgate and implement rules as deemed necessary to implement all the provisions of the Oklahoma Abstractors Act.

C. The Board shall have the power and duty to obtain and secure an office in Oklahoma City, and employ, direct, discharge, and define the duties and set the salaries of employees of the Board, including an executive director, as are necessary to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Abstractors Act.

D. The Board shall consist of nine (9) members who shall be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate:

1. Six of the members shall be residents of this state who are either a holder of a current valid Certificate of Authority or an employee of a holder of a current valid Certificate of Authority for not less than five (5) years in a county in the district from which the member is appointed prior to appointment. One member shall be appointed from each of the following districts:

District 1: Alfalfa, Beaver, Blaine, Cimarron, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Harper, Kingfisher, Major, Roger Mills, Texas, Woods, and Woodward Counties.

District 2: Beckham, Caddo, Carter, Comanche, Cotton, Garvin, Grady, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Jefferson, Kiowa, Love, McClain, Murray, Stephens, Tillman, and Washita Counties.

District 3: Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, and Oklahoma Counties.

District 4: Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Kay, Mayes, Muskogee, Noble, Nowata, Okmulgee, Osage, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Sequoyah, and Washington Counties.

District 5: Creek, Lincoln, Rogers, Tulsa, and Wagoner Counties.

District 6: Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Coal, Haskell, Hughes, Johnston, Latimer, LeFlore, McIntosh, Marshall, McCurtain, Okfuskee, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, and Seminole Counties;

2. One member shall be a resident of this state who has been a licensed real estate broker in Oklahoma for not less than five (5) years;

3. One member shall be an attorney who is a resident of this state who has been licensed to practice in Oklahoma for not less than five (5) years; and

4. One member shall be a resident of this state who has been an officer in a bank in Oklahoma for not less than five (5) years.

E. The Governor shall make the initial appointments to the Board within ninety (90) days of ~~the effective date of this act~~ July 1, 2007:

1. The initial appointments for the members of the Board shall be as follows:

a. members appointed from Districts 1 and 3 shall serve until July 1, 2008,

b. members appointed from Districts 2 and 4 shall serve until July 1, 2009,

c. members appointed from Districts 5 and 6 shall serve until July 1, 2010,

d. the real estate broker member shall serve until July 1, 2010,

e. the attorney member shall serve until July 1, 2009, and

f. the bank officer member shall serve until July 1, 2010; and

2. Thereafter, all members shall serve four-year terms.

F. Each member shall hold office until the expiration of the term of office for which appointed or until a successor has been appointed and confirmed:

1. Vacancies on the Board due to death, resignation, or removal occurring during a term shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired portion of the term in a manner as provided for regular appointments to the Board;

2. Members filling the remainder of an unexpired term shall assume office immediately upon appointment by the Governor and shall serve until confirmation or denial of confirmation by the Senate; and

3. A member may be reappointed to the Board, but shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. A member that has previously served two consecutive terms may be reappointed after the expiration of at least one full term.

G. Members of the Board shall receive no salary or compensation for service on the Board, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred on behalf of their service on the Board pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

H. Members may be removed from office by the Governor:

1. For inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office in the manner provided for by law for the removal of officers not subject to impeachment;

2. For cause which shall include, but not be limited to:

a. the member has ceased to be qualified. A member of the Board is no longer qualified to serve if that member:

(1) is a member whose Certificate of Authority, license, or permit pursuant to the laws of this state has become void or has been revoked or suspended, or

(2) is a member who has moved from this state,

b. the member has been convicted, pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony pursuant to the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction,

c. the member has become medically incapacitated as determined in writing by a medical doctor upon request by the Board, or

d. the member has been absent from three meetings, or is absent for more than one-half (1/2) the number of minutes for which a meeting is conducted of three meetings as determined by the Board during any twelve-month period, unless such absence is determined to be unavoidable in the opinion of a majority of the remaining members;

3. Upon being found guilty, through due process, of malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in relation to Board duties; or

4. Upon being found mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

I. Removal pursuant to the provisions of subsection H of this section shall be accomplished in the following manner:

1. After a majority vote of the remaining members setting out the dates of absences or other grounds for removal and the fact of the disqualification of the member, a written notification of the said vote shall be sent to the Governor; and

2. Upon receipt of the written notification, the Governor, after a hearing conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, may remove any member of the Board for any of the reasons set out in the notice from the Board or for any other reason specified in this act, provided:

a. removal pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall occur upon the Governor filing a written statement of findings after the hearing as to the reasons and basis for removal of the member with the secretary of the Board, and

b. the Governor shall appoint another member in the manner provided for appointments to the Board.

Passed the House of Representatives the 28th day of February, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 18th day of April, 2023.

Brent Howard
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 19th day of April, 2023, at 3:32 o'clock p. M.

By: Summer Curry

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____ day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 26th day of April, 2023, at 6:12 o'clock P. M.

By: Brian Bingman

OFFICE OF

THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

No. HB 2798

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., April 26, 20 23

TIME SIGNED: _____

TO THE HONORABLE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE
FIFTY-NINTH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL NO. 2798:

In accordance with Article VI Section 11, of the Oklahoma Constitution, Enrolled House Bill 2798 has become law without the Governor's signature and has been filed with the Oklahoma Secretary of State.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

_____

Delivered to HOUSE: [signature]

Date/Time: 4/26/23; 6:09 pm

HOUSE:

By Collette H Hawkins

Date/Time: 4/26/23 6:14 pm

RECEIVED
APR 26 2023
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE