An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2818

By: Kendrix of the House

and

Bergstrom of the Senate

An Act relating to sunset; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 2-1001, which relates to the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review 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 63 O.S. 2021, Section 2-1001, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-1001. A. There is hereby created until July 1, ~~2023~~ 2025, in accordance with the Oklahoma Sunset Law, the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board within the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. The Board shall have the power and duty to:

1. Coordinate and integrate state and local efforts to address overdose deaths and create a body of information to prevent overdose deaths;

2. Conduct case reviews of deaths of persons eighteen (18) years of age or older due to licit or illicit opioid use in this state;

3. Collect, analyze and interpret state and local data on opioid overdose deaths;

4. Develop a state and local database on opioid overdose deaths;

5. Improve policies, procedures and practices within the agencies in order to prevent fatal opioid overdoses and to serve victims of unintentional overdose; and

6. Enter into agreements with other state, local or private entities as necessary to carry out the duties of the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board, including but not limited to, conducting joint reviews with the Child Death Review Board on unintentional overdose cases involving child death and child near-death incidents.

B. In carrying out its duties and responsibilities, the Board shall:

1. Promulgate rules establishing criteria for identifying cases involving an opioid overdose death subject to specific, in-depth review by the Board;

2. Conduct a specific case review of those cases where the cause of death is or may be related to overdose of opioid drugs;

3. Establish and maintain statistical information related to opioid overdose deaths including, but not limited to, demographic and medical diagnostic information;

4. Establish procedures for obtaining initial information regarding opioid overdose deaths from law enforcement agencies;

5. Review the policies, practices and procedures of medical systems and law enforcement systems and other overdose protection and prevention systems, and make specific recommendations to those entities for actions necessary for the improvement of the system;

6. Request and obtain a copy of all records and reports pertaining to an adult whose case is under review including, but not limited to:

a. the report of the medical examiner,

b. hospital records,

c. school records,

d. court records,

e. prosecutorial records,

f. local, state and federal law enforcement records including, but not limited to, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) and Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBN),

g. fire department records,

h. State Department of Health records, including birth certificate records,

i. medical and dental records,

j. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and other mental health records,

k. emergency medical service records,

l. files of the Department of Human Services, and

m. records in the possession of the Child Death Review Board when conducting a joint review in accordance with paragraph 6 of subsection A of this section.

Confidential information provided to the Board shall be maintained by the Board in a confidential manner as otherwise required by state and federal law. Any person damaged by disclosure of such confidential information by the Board or its members which is not authorized by law may maintain an action for damages, costs and attorney fees pursuant to The Governmental Tort Claims Act;

7. Maintain all confidential information, documents and records in possession of the Board as confidential and not subject to subpoena or discovery in any civil or criminal proceedings; provided however, information, documents and records otherwise available from other sources shall not be exempt from subpoena or discovery through those sources solely because such information, documents and records were presented to or reviewed by the Board;

8. Conduct reviews of specific cases of opioid overdose deaths and request the preparation of additional information and reports as determined to be necessary by the Board including, but not limited

to, clinical summaries from treating physicians, chronologies of contact and second-opinion autopsies;

9. Report, if recommended by a majority vote of the Board, to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives any information and guidance regarding the prevention and protection system to advise on changing trends in overdose rates, substances, methods or any other factor impacting overdose deaths, including any systemic issue within the medical, law enforcement or other relevant systems discovered by the Board while performing its duties; and

10. Exercise all incidental powers necessary and proper for the implementation and administration of the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board.

C. The review and discussion of individual cases of an opioid overdose death shall be conducted in executive session. All other business shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. All discussions of individual cases and any writings produced by or created for the Board in the course of determining a remedial measure to be recommended by the Board, as the result of a review of an individual case of an opioid overdose death, shall be privileged and shall not be admissible in evidence in any proceeding. The Board shall periodically conduct meetings to discuss organization and business matters and any actions or recommendations aimed at improvement of the medical system or law enforcement system which shall be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. Part of any meeting of the Board may be specifically designated as a business meeting of the Board subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

D. The Board shall submit an annual statistical report on the incidence and causes of opioid overdose deaths in this state for which the Board has completed its review during the past calendar year including its recommendations, if any, to the medical and law enforcement system. The Board shall also prepare and make available to the public, on an annual basis, a report containing a summary of the activities of the Board relating to the review of opioid overdose deaths, the extent to which the state medical and law enforcement system is coordinated and an evaluation of whether the state is efficiently discharging its responsibilities to prevent opioid overdose deaths. The report shall be completed no later than February 1 of the subsequent year.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 19th day of April, 2023.

Brent Howard
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 20th
day of April, 20 23, at 3:15 o'clock p. M.
By: Jenner Curry

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 26th
day of April, 20 23, at 1:00 o'clock p. 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, 20 23, at 2:41 o'clock P. M.
By: Brian Bingman