1 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 292 By: Griffin of the Senate 2 and 3 Echols of the House 4 5 6 7 [ child abuse and neglect - definitions - modifying definitions - effective date ] 8 9 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: AMENDATORY 11 SECTION 1. 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-1-105, as 12 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 353, O.S.L. 2012 (10A O.S. Supp. 13 2014, Section 1-1-105), is amended to read as follows: Section 1-1-105. When used in the Oklahoma Children's Code, 14 unless the context otherwise requires: 15 1. "Abandonment" means: 16 the willful intent by words, actions, or omissions not 17 a. to return for a child, or 18 the failure to maintain a significant parental 19 b. relationship with a child through visitation or 20 communication in which incidental or token visits or 21 communication are not considered significant, or 22 the failure to respond to notice of deprived 23 с. proceedings; 24

1 2. "Abuse" means harm or threatened harm or failure to protect from harm or threatened harm to the health, safety, or welfare of a 2 3 child by a person responsible for the child's health, safety, or welfare, including but not limited to nonaccidental physical or 4 5 mental injury, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation. Provided, however, that nothing contained in this act shall prohibit any 6 parent from using ordinary force as a means of discipline including, 7 but not limited to, spanking, switching, or paddling. 8

9 а. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a 10 child" means any real or threatened physical, mental, 11 or emotional injury or damage to the body or mind that is not accidental including but not limited to sexual 12 abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, or dependency. 13 "Sexual abuse" includes but is not limited to rape, b. 14 incest, and lewd or indecent acts or proposals made to 15 a child, as defined by law, by a person responsible 16 for the health, safety, or welfare of the child. 17 "Sexual exploitation" includes but is not limited to 18 с. allowing, permitting, or encouraging a child to engage 19 in prostitution, as defined by law, by a person 20 responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a 21 child, or allowing, permitting, encouraging, or 22 engaging in the lewd, obscene, or pornographic, as 23 defined by law, photographing, filming, or depicting 24

1 of a child in those acts by a person responsible for the health, safety, and welfare of the child; 2 "Adjudication" means a finding by the court that the 3 3. allegations in a petition alleging that a child is deprived are 4 5 supported by a preponderance of the evidence; "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing by the court as 6 4. provided by Section 1-4-601 of this title; 7 5. "Assessment" means a comprehensive review of child safety 8 9 and evaluation of family functioning and protective capacities that 10 is conducted in response to a child abuse or neglect referral that does not allege a serious and immediate safety threat to a child; 11 6. "Behavioral health" means mental health, substance abuse, or 12 co-occurring mental health and substance abuse diagnoses, and the 13 continuum of mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring mental 14 health and substance abuse treatment; 15

16 7. "Child" means any unmarried person under eighteen (18) years 17 of age;

8. "Child advocacy center" means a center and the multidisciplinary child abuse team of which it is a member that is accredited by the National Children's Alliance or that is completing a sixth year of reaccreditation. Child advocacy centers shall be classified, based on the child population of a district attorney's district, as follows:

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1 nonurban centers in districts with child populations a. that are less than sixty thousand (60,000), and 2 midlevel nonurban centers in districts with child 3 b. populations equal to or greater than sixty thousand 4 5 (60,000), but not including Oklahoma and Tulsa counties; 6 "Child with a disability" means any child who has a physical 7 9. or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of the 8 9 major life activities of the child, or who is regarded as having 10 such an impairment by a competent medical professional; "Child-placing agency" means an agency that arranges for or 11 10. 12 places a child in a foster family home, group home, adoptive home, or independent living program; 13 "Commission" means the Commission for Human Services; 11. 14 "Community-based services" or "community-based programs" 15 12. means services or programs which maintain community participation or 16 supervision in their planning, operation, and evaluation. 17 Community-based services and programs may include, but are not 18 limited to, emergency shelter, crisis intervention, group work, case 19 supervision, job placement, recruitment and training of volunteers, 20 consultation, medical, educational, home-based services, vocational, 21 social, preventive and psychological guidance, training, counseling, 22 early intervention and diversionary substance abuse treatment, 23 24

1 sexual abuse treatment, transitional living, independent living, and 2 other related services and programs;

3 13. "Concurrent permanency planning" means, when indicated, the 4 implementation of two plans for a child entering foster care. One 5 plan focuses on reuniting the parent and child; the other seeks to 6 find a permanent out-of-home placement for the child with both plans 7 being pursued simultaneously;

8 14. "Court-appointed special advocate" or "CASA" means a 9 responsible adult volunteer who has been trained and is supervised 10 by a court-appointed special advocate program recognized by the 11 court, and when appointed by the court, serves as an officer of the 12 court in the capacity as a guardian ad litem;

13 15. "Court-appointed special advocate program" means an 14 organized program, administered by either an independent, not-for-15 profit corporation, a dependent project of an independent, not-for-16 profit corporation or a unit of local government, which recruits, 17 screens, trains, assigns, supervises and supports volunteers to be 18 available for appointment by the court as guardians ad litem;

19 16. "Custodian" means an individual other than a parent, legal 20 guardian or Indian custodian, to whom legal custody of the child has 21 been awarded by the court. As used in this title, the term 22 "custodian" shall not mean the Department of Human Services; 23 17. "Day treatment" means a nonresidential program which 24 provides intensive services to a child who resides in the child's

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1	own home, the home of a relative, group home, a foster home or									
2	residential child care facility. Day treatment programs include,									
3	but are not limited to, educational services;									
4	18. "Department" means the Department of Human Services;									
5	19. "Dependency" means a child who is homeless or without									
6	proper care or guardianship through no fault of his or her parent,									
7	legal guardian, or custodian;									
8	20. "Deprived child" means a child:									
9	a. who is for any reason destitute, homeless, or									
10	abandoned,									
11	b. who does not have the proper parental care or									
12	guardianship,									
13	c. who has been abused, neglected, or is dependent,									
14	d. whose home is an unfit place for the child by reason									
15	of depravity on the part of the parent or legal									
16	guardian of the child, or other person responsible for									
17	the health or welfare of the child,									
18	e. who is a child in need of special care and treatment									
19	because of the child's physical or mental condition,									
20	and the child's parents, legal guardian, or other									
21	custodian is unable or willfully fails to provide such									
22	special care and treatment. As used in this									
23	paragraph, a child in need of special care and									

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1 at birth tests positive for alcohol or a controlled 2 dangerous substance and who, pursuant to a drug or alcohol screen of the child and an assessment of the 3 parent, is determined to be at risk of harm or 4 5 threatened harm to the health or safety of a child, f. who is a child with a disability deprived of the 6 nutrition necessary to sustain life or of the medical 7 treatment necessary to remedy or relieve a life-8 9 threatening medical condition in order to cause or allow the death of the child if such nutrition or 10 medical treatment is generally provided to similarly 11 situated children without a disability or children 12 with disabilities; provided that no medical treatment 13 shall be necessary if, in the reasonable medical 14 judgment of the attending physician, such treatment 15 would be futile in saving the life of the child, 16 who, due to improper parental care and guardianship, 17 q. is absent from school as specified in Section 10-106 18 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, if the child is 19 subject to compulsory school attendance, 20 h. whose parent, legal guardian or custodian for good 21 cause desires to be relieved of custody, 22 i. who has been born to a parent whose parental rights to 23 another child have been involuntarily terminated by 24

the court and the conditions which led to the making of the finding, which resulted in the termination of the parental rights of the parent to the other child, have not been corrected, or

j. whose parent, legal guardian, or custodian has
subjected another child to abuse or neglect or has
allowed another child to be subjected to abuse or
neglect and is currently a respondent in a deprived
proceeding.

Nothing in the Oklahoma Children's Code shall be construed to mean a child is deprived for the sole reason the parent, legal guardian, or person having custody or control of a child, in good faith, selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or remedial care of such child.

Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prevent a court from immediately assuming custody of a child and ordering whatever action may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the child's health or welfare;

21 21. "Dispositional hearing" means a hearing by the court as 22 provided by Section 1-4-706 of this title;

23 22. "Drug-endangered child" means a child who is at risk of 24 suffering physical, psychological or sexual harm as a result of the

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1 use, possession, distribution, manufacture or cultivation of 2 controlled substances, or the attempt of any of these acts, by a person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of the child, 3 as defined in paragraph 51 of this section. This term includes 4 5 circumstances wherein the substance abuse of the person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of the child interferes with that 6 person's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing 7 environment for the child. The term also includes newborns who test 8 9 positive for a controlled dangerous substance, with the exception of 10 those substances administered under the care of a physician;

11 23. "Emergency custody" means the custody of a child prior to 12 adjudication of the child following issuance of an order of the 13 district court pursuant to Section 1-4-201 of this title or 14 following issuance of an order of the district court pursuant to an 15 emergency custody hearing, as specified by Section 1-4-203 of this 16 title;

17 24. "Facility" means a place, an institution, a building or 18 part thereof, a set of buildings, or an area whether or not 19 enclosing a building or set of buildings used for the lawful custody 20 and treatment of children;

21 25. <u>"Failure to protect" means failure to take reasonable</u>
22 action to remedy or prevent child abuse or neglect, and includes the
23 conduct of a non-abusing parent or guardian who knows the identity
24 of the abuser or the person neglecting the child, but lies, conceals

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1 or fails to report the child abuse or neglect or otherwise take
2 reasonable action to end the abuse or neglect;

3 <u>26.</u> "Foster care" or "foster care services" means continuous 4 twenty-four-hour care and supportive services provided for a child 5 in foster placement including, but not limited to, the care, 6 supervision, guidance, and rearing of a foster child by the foster 7 parent;

8 26. 27. "Foster family home" means the private residence of a 9 foster parent who provides foster care services to a child. Such 10 term shall include a nonkinship foster family home, a therapeutic 11 foster family home, or the home of a relative or other kinship care 12 home;

13 27. 28. "Foster parent eligibility assessment" includes a 14 criminal background investigation including, but not limited to, a 15 national criminal history records search based upon the submission 16 of fingerprints, home assessments, and any other assessment required 17 by the Department of Human Services, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, 18 or any child-placing agency pursuant to the provisions of the 19 Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act;

20 28. 29. "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed by the 21 court pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title 22 having those duties and responsibilities as set forth in that 23 section. The term "guardian ad litem" shall refer to a court-24 appointed special advocate as well as to any other person appointed

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pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-306 of this title to serve as a guardian ad litem;

3 29. 30. "Guardian ad litem of the estate of the child" means a 4 person appointed by the court to protect the property interests of a 5 child pursuant to Section 1-8-109 of this title;

30. 31. "Group home" means a residential facility licensed by
the Department to provide full-time care and community-based
services for more than five but fewer than thirteen children;

9 31. 32. "Harm or threatened harm to the health or safety of a 10 child" means any real or threatened physical, mental, or emotional 11 injury or damage to the body or mind that is not accidental 12 including, but not limited to, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, 13 neglect, or dependency;

14 <u>32. 33.</u> "Heinous and shocking abuse" includes, but is not 15 limited to, aggravated physical abuse that results in serious 16 bodily, mental, or emotional injury. "Serious bodily injury" means 17 injury that involves:

- 18 a. a substantial risk of death,
- 19 b. extreme physical pain,
- 20 c. protracted disfigurement,
- d. a loss or impairment of the function of a body member,
  organ, or mental faculty,
- e. an injury to an internal or external organ or thebody,

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f. a bone fracture,

g. sexual abuse or sexual exploitation,

- h. chronic abuse including, but not limited to, physical,
  emotional, or sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation
  which is repeated or continuing,
- i. torture that includes, but is not limited to,
  inflicting, participating in or assisting in
  inflicting intense physical or emotional pain upon a
  child repeatedly over a period of time for the purpose
  of coercing or terrorizing a child or for the purpose
  of satisfying the craven, cruel, or prurient desires
  of the perpetrator or another person, or

13 j. any other similar aggravated circumstance;

14 <u>33.</u> <u>34.</u> "Heinous and shocking neglect" includes, but is not 15 limited to:

chronic neglect that includes, but is not limited to, 16 a. a persistent pattern of family functioning in which 17 the caregiver has not met or sustained the basic needs 18 of a child which results in harm to the child, 19 b. neglect that has resulted in a diagnosis of the child 20 as a failure to thrive, 21 an act or failure to act by a parent that results in 22 с. the death or near death of a child or sibling, serious 23

24 physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, sexual

1 exploitation, or presents an imminent risk of serious
2 harm to a child, or

3 d. any other similar aggravating circumstance; <del>34.</del> 35. "Independent living program" means a program 4 5 specifically designed to assist a child to enhance those skills and abilities necessary for successful adult living. An independent 6 7 living program may include, but shall not be limited to, such features as minimal direct staff supervision, and the provision of 8 9 supportive services to assist children with activities necessary for 10 finding an appropriate place of residence, completing an education 11 or vocational training, obtaining employment, or obtaining other 12 similar services;

13 35. 36. "Individualized service plan" means a document written 14 pursuant to Section 1-4-704 of this title that has the same meaning 15 as "service plan" or "treatment plan" where those terms are used in 16 the Oklahoma Children's Code;

17 36. 37. "Infant" means a child who is twelve (12) months of age
18 or younger;

19 37. 38. "Institution" means a residential facility offering 20 care and treatment for more than twenty residents;

21 <del>38.</del>

22 <u>39.</u> a. "Investigation" means a response to an allegation of
23 abuse or neglect that involves a serious and immediate

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1	threat	to	the	safety	of	the	child,	making	it	necessary
2	to dete	ermi	lne:							

- the current safety of a child and the risk of subsequent abuse or neglect, and
- (2) whether child abuse or neglect occurred and whether the family needs prevention- and intervention-related services.
- b. "Investigation" results in a written response stating one of the following findings:
- (1) "Substantiated" means the Department has
  determined, after an investigation of a report of
  child abuse or neglect and based upon some
  credible evidence, that child abuse or neglect
  has occurred. When child abuse or neglect is
  substantiated, the Department may recommend:
- 16 (a) court intervention if the Department finds
  17 the health safety, or welfare of the child
  18 is threatened, or
- (b) child abuse and neglect prevention and
  intervention-related services for the child,
  parents or persons responsible for the care
  of the child if court intervention is not
  determined to be necessary,
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"Unsubstantiated - Services recommended" means 1 (2)the Department has determined, after an 2 3 investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect, that insufficient evidence exists to 4 5 fully determine whether child abuse or neglect has occurred. If child abuse or neglect is 6 unsubstantiated, the Department may recommend, 7 when determined to be necessary, that the parents 8 9 or persons responsible for the care of the child 10 obtain child abuse and neglect prevention- and 11 intervention-related services, or

12 (3) "Ruled out" means a report in which a child 13 protective services specialist has determined, 14 after an investigation of a report of child abuse 15 or neglect, that no child abuse or neglect has 16 occurred;

17 39. 40. "Kinship care" means full-time care of a child by a 18 kinship relation;

19 <u>40. 41.</u> "Kinship guardianship" means a permanent guardianship 20 as defined in this section;

21 <u>41. 42.</u> "Kinship relation" or "kinship relationship" means 22 relatives, stepparents, or other responsible adults who have a bond 23 or tie with a child and/or to whom has been ascribed a family 24 relationship role with the child's parents or the child; provided,

however, in cases where the Indian Child Welfare Act applies, the
 definitions contained in 25 U.S.C., Section 1903 shall control;

3 42. 43. "Mental health facility" means a mental health or 4 substance abuse treatment facility as defined by the Inpatient 5 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act; 6 43. 44. "Minor" means the same as the term "child" as defined 7 in this section;

8 44. 45. "Minor in need of treatment" means a child in need of 9 mental health or substance abuse treatment as defined by the 10 Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment of Minors Act;

11 45. 46. "Multidisciplinary child abuse team" means any team established pursuant to Section 1-9-102 of this title of three or 12 more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification, 13 investigation, prosecution, and treatment of physical and sexual 14 15 child abuse and who are qualified to facilitate a broad range of prevention and intervention-related services and services related to 16 child abuse. For purposes of this definition, "freestanding" means 17 a team not used by a child advocacy center for its accreditation; 18 46. 47. "Near death" means a child is in serious or critical 19 condition, as certified by a physician, as a result of abuse or 20 neglect; 21

22 47. 48. "Neglect" means:

a. the failure or omission to provide any of thefollowing:

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1 (1)adequate nurturance and affection, food, clothing, shelter, sanitation, hygiene, or 2 3 appropriate education, (2) medical, dental, or behavioral health care, 4 5 (3) supervision or appropriate caretakers, or special care made necessary by the physical or 6 (4) mental condition of the child, 7 b. the failure or omission to protect a child from 8 9 exposure to any of the following: 10 (1)the use, possession, sale, or manufacture of 11 illegal drugs, illegal activities, or 12 (2)13 sexual acts or materials that are not age-(3) appropriate, or 14

15 c. abandonment.

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to mean a child is 16 17 abused or neglected for the sole reason the parent, legal guardian or person having custody or control of a child, in good faith, 18 selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in 19 20 accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or 21 remedial care of such child. Nothing contained in this paragraph 22 shall prevent a court from immediately assuming custody of a child, 23 pursuant to the Oklahoma Children's Code, and ordering whatever 24

1 action may be necessary, including medical treatment, to protect the 2 child's health or welfare;

3 48. 49. "Permanency hearing" means a hearing by the court
4 pursuant to Section 1-4-811 of this title;

5 49. 50. "Permanent custody" means the court-ordered custody of 6 an adjudicated deprived child when a parent-child relationship no 7 longer exists due to termination of parental rights or due to the 8 death of a parent or parents;

9 50. 51. "Permanent guardianship" means a judicially created 10 relationship between a child, a kinship relation of the child, or 11 other adult established pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-4-12 709 of this title;

51. 52. "Person responsible for a child's health, safety, or 13 welfare" includes a parent; a legal guardian; custodian; a foster 14 15 parent; a person eighteen (18) years of age or older with whom the child's parent cohabitates or any other adult residing in the home 16 of the child; an agent or employee of a public or private 17 residential home, institution, facility or day treatment program as 18 defined in Section 175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or 19 an owner, operator, or employee of a child care facility as defined 20 by Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; 21

22 <u>52.</u> <u>53.</u> "Protective custody" means custody of a child taken by 23 a law enforcement officer or designated employee of the court 24 without a court order;

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53. 54. "Putative father" means an alleged father as that term
 is defined in Section 7700-102 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3 <u>54.</u> <u>55.</u> "Relative" means a grandparent, great-grandparent, 4 brother or sister of whole or half blood, aunt, uncle or any other 5 person related to the child;

55. 56. "Residential child care facility" means a twenty-fourhour residential facility where children live together with or are
supervised by adults who are not their parents or relatives;

9 <u>56.</u> <u>57.</u> "Review hearing" means a hearing by the court pursuant
10 to Section 1-4-807 of this title;

11 57. 58. "Risk" means the likelihood that an incident of child 12 abuse or neglect will occur in the future;

13 58. <u>59.</u> "Safety threat" means the threat of serious harm due to 14 child abuse or neglect occurring in the present or in the very near 15 future and without the intervention of another person, a child would 16 likely or in all probability sustain severe or permanent disability 17 or injury, illness, or death;

18 59. 60. "Safety analysis" means action taken by the Department 19 in response to a report of alleged child abuse or neglect that may 20 include an assessment or investigation based upon an analysis of the 21 information received according to priority guidelines and other 22 criteria adopted by the Department;

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1 <u>60. 61.</u> "Safety evaluation" means evaluation of a child's 2 situation by the Department using a structured, evidence-based tool 3 to determine if the child is subject to a safety threat;

4 61. 62. "Secure facility" means a facility which is designed 5 and operated to ensure that all entrances and exits from the 6 facility are subject to the exclusive control of the staff of the 7 facility, whether or not the juvenile being detained has freedom of 8 movement within the perimeter of the facility, or a facility which 9 relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences, or physical restraint 10 in order to control behavior of its residents;

11 <u>62.</u> <u>63.</u> "Sibling" means a biologically or legally related 12 brother or sister of a child;

13 <u>63. 64.</u> "Specialized foster care" means foster care provided to 14 a child in a foster home or agency-contracted home which:

- a. has been certified by the Developmental Disabilities
   Services Division of the Department of Human Services,
- b. is monitored by the Division, and
- 18 c. is funded through the Home- and Community-Based Waiver
   19 Services Program administered by the Division;

20 <u>64.</u> <u>65.</u> "Temporary custody" means court-ordered custody of an 21 adjudicated deprived child;

22 <u>65.</u> "Therapeutic foster family home" means a foster family 23 home which provides specific treatment services, pursuant to a 24 therapeutic foster care contract, which are designed to remedy

1 social and behavioral problems of a foster child residing in the
2 home;

66. 67. "Transitional living program" means a residential 3 4 program that may be attached to an existing facility or operated 5 solely for the purpose of assisting children to develop the skills and abilities necessary for successful adult living. The program 6 may include, but shall not be limited to, reduced staff supervision, 7 vocational training, educational services, employment and employment 8 9 training, and other appropriate independent living skills training 10 as a part of the transitional living program; and

11 67. 68. "Voluntary foster care placement" means the temporary 12 placement of a child by the parent, legal guardian or custodian of 13 the child in foster care pursuant to a signed placement agreement 14 between the Department or a child-placing agency and the child's 15 parent, legal guardian or custodian.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015. 17
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1	Passed the Senate the 25th day of February, 2015.
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3	Presiding Officer of the Senate
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5	Passed the House of Representatives the day of,
6	2015.
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