

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

REQUEST FOR INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

DATE: May 25, 2007

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S): Rep. Ron Peters

TOPIC OF THE PROPOSAL:

**Corrections and the Criminal Justice System:**

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY PROPOSAL:

Review the assessment and treatment programs for criminals within the Department of Corrections and the Oklahoma criminal justice system to identify the role for forensic counselors (Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Psychologists and other trained behavioral health professionals who are specially trained and certified in the assessment and treatment of disorders related to criminal behavior). Could we improve the criminal justice system and reduce recidivism and victimization through better assessment of inmates prior to release? Could more appropriate targeted counseling for certain populations of inmates result in a reduction in crime?

Review the contributions of forensic counselors in treating criminals and their victims and reducing recidivism for crimes involving sexual offenses, domestic violence, child abuse, and other violent offenses.

IF PRIVATE CITIZENS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE TO BE NOTIFIED OF MEETING, LIST NAMES AND ADDRESSES:

FILE IN CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

5-25-07 JH

PROPOSAL NUMBER 07-171