

ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1038

BY: RICE and ROACH of the
HOUSE

and

BROWN of the SENATE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A STATEWIDE TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE COORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, WELFARE-TO-WORK, AND RELATED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENTS, OFFICERS, REIMBURSEMENT, STAFF ASSISTANCE AND FUNCTIONS OF SUCH TASK FORCE; STATING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION.

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma desires the fullest possible development of the capacity of its citizens to be gainfully employed and contributing members of society; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Oklahoma to effectively coordinate employment, training, welfare-to-work, and related education programs to best utilize scarce financial resources in helping to bring people forward from dependency into economically productive employment; and

WHEREAS, at the federal level, the Bush Administration has promoted intradepartmental meetings between senior level officials within the Departments of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor to facilitate the development of a better fit between the various programs, including developing common program definitions; and

WHEREAS, in 1990 in the State of Oklahoma there were:

1. 121,691 recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, funded by \$8,831,426.00 from federal and \$3,848,295.00 from state sources;
2. 7,077 trainees under the programs funded by the Job Training Partnership Act, funded by \$35,931,000.00 from federal and \$1,797,000.00 from state sources;
3. 24,307 adult education students in Oklahoma, funded by \$1,437,185.00 from federal and \$285,600.00 from state sources;
4. 379,000 recipients of Carl Perkins Vocational Funding, funded by \$12,649,488.00 from federal sources with no state contribution;
5. 60,563 recipients of unemployment insurance benefits, the balance of said fund being about \$415 million as of May 21, 1991;
6. 60,455 recipients of Pell Grants, funded by \$83,867,148.00 from federal sources; and
7. 610 recipients of Oklahoma State Academic Scholars Program, funded by \$5.5 million in state funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 43RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT there shall be created until December 1, 1991, a statewide Task Force to study the coordination of employment, training, welfare-to-work, and related educational programs. The Task Force

shall consist of thirteen (13) voting members, of whom three shall be appointed by the Governor, five shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and five shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Task Force shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from its membership. Members shall meet at the call of the chairperson and shall be reimbursed by their appointing authority for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act. The chief administrative officer of the Department of Human Services, the State Department of Education, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Department of Labor, and the State Department of Vocational and Technical Education shall provide staff assistance as needed to help complete this study. It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education also provide staff assistance if requested by the Task Force.

THAT the Task Force shall perform the following functions:

1. Assess the level of intradepartmental cooperation within the various unitary agencies of Oklahoma state government regarding the effective coordination and delivery of employment, training, welfare-to-work, and related educational programs;

2. Review policies and regulations and identify roadblocks and other programmatic rules that provide practical disincentives for individuals to gain further training and education required to gain employment;

3. Recommend changes in state procedures, regulations, and statutes to remove identified roadblocks to effective participation in employment, training, welfare-to-work, and related educational programs; and

4. File a report on the study by December 1, 1991, with the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate in time for executive and legislative leaders to fully consider its recommendations in the 1992 Session of the Oklahoma Legislature.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the chief administrative officer of each of the following state agencies: the Department of Human Services, the State Department of Education, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Department of Labor, the State Department of Vocational and Technical Education, and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 30th day of May,

1991.

of Speaker of the House
s Representative

Adopted by the Senate the 31st day of May, 1991.

Senate

President

of the