

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 43rd Legislature (1992)

SENATE BILL NO. 890

BY: BROWN of the SENATE

and

BASTIN OF THE HOUSE

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO VOLUNTEERS; CREATING THE OKLAHOMA VOLUNTEERISM ACT; PROVIDING SHORT TITLE; CREATING THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM; STATING PURPOSE; ESTABLISHING OFFICE AS INDEPENDENT AGENCY OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA; STATING DUTIES OF THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM; CREATING A VOLUNTEERISM COUNCIL; STATING MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS; STATING TERM LIMITATION OF MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR TERMS TO BE STAGGERED; REQUIRING MEMBERS TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON AT CERTAIN MEETING; STATING FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERS TO CLAIM CERTAIN TRAVEL EXPENSES; STATING DUTIES OF VOLUNTEERISM COUNCIL; AUTHORIZING COUNCIL TO EMPLOY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHO SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO BE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE OF THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM; AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL TO SET CERTAIN SALARY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EMPLOY CERTAIN STAFF SUBJECT TO CERTAIN APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION; AUTHORIZING STAFF TO RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM TO

RECEIVE AND EXPEND CERTAIN FUNDS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES; CREATING A REVOLVING FUND; AUTHORIZING THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM TO ENTER INTO CERTAIN NECESSARY CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR THE OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM TO ADOPT RULES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8001 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Volunteerism Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8002 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism for the purpose of developing, promoting and supporting volunteerism in the State of Oklahoma. The office shall support voluntary involvement in public and private programs to meet the needs of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma, to stimulate new voluntary initiatives and partnerships, and to serve as a resource and advocate within the State of Oklahoma for volunteer agencies, volunteers and programs which utilize volunteers.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8003 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism, in cooperation with governmental entities, individual volunteers and volunteer organizations throughout the State of Oklahoma, shall:

1. Assist all state agencies in the development of volunteer programs;

2. Operate as a statewide information center for volunteer programs and needed services that could be delivered by volunteer programs;

3. Provide or aid in the provision of technical assistance and training in all aspects of volunteerism for directors and coordinators of volunteers, for staff, and for individual volunteers for state, local or private entities;

4. Assess and recognize the needs of communities throughout the State of Oklahoma and initiate volunteer programs to meet those needs;

5. Promote and coordinate efforts to expand and improve the statewide voluntary network;

6. Foster and promote the recognition of the accomplishments of volunteers and volunteerism within the State of Oklahoma;

7. Develop, implement and maintain a volunteer clearinghouse to disseminate information to support volunteer programs and to broaden voluntary involvement throughout the State of Oklahoma;

8. Promote communication and collaboration between public and private volunteer programs in the State of Oklahoma and between the public and private sector's initiatives in meeting human needs;

9. Establish methods for supporting and promoting private sector leadership and responsibility for meeting public needs;

10. Cooperate with federal, state, and local volunteer groups in collecting information on federal, state and private resources which may encourage and improve volunteer projects within the State of Oklahoma; and

11. Develop a program to inform the public of the opportunities to volunteer and of the services volunteers provide within the State of Oklahoma.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8004 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created an Oklahoma Volunteerism Council comprised of fifteen (15) members representing the many areas of voluntary involvement of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma. Five members each shall be appointed by the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives respectively. In making such appointments, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore and the Speaker shall give due consideration to the following: persons over sixty (60) years of age who actively volunteer in any organization; a professional director of volunteer services in the public sector; a representative of a statewide service club; a professional offering technical assistance to a not-for-profit organization; a representative of a state chapter of a national charitable organization; a representative of an active volunteer organization; a representative of business executives active in corporate volunteerism; a representative of a statewide civic association; a representative of a college or university active in volunteerism; a representative of a self-help organization; a professional director of a volunteer service in private industry; a representative of a labor organization active in volunteerism; a public relations or marketing professional; a representative of Oklahoma volunteer centers; and an active volunteer in a youth volunteer organization.

B. Members of the Oklahoma Volunteerism Council shall serve three-year terms and shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms. The initial appointments to the Council shall be made as follows: The members appointed by the Governor shall serve

for three (3) years; the members appointed by the President Pro Tempore shall serve for two (2) years and the members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve for one (1) year.

C. Members of the Council shall elect from their number a chairperson to serve for a one-year term. Such election shall be held at the first meeting of the Council and at the first meeting of each calendar year thereafter.

D. The Council shall meet at least once every three (3) months, in addition to any meeting called by the chairperson when necessary.

E. Members of the Council shall not receive any compensation except that provided by the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8005 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Volunteerism Council shall:

1. Advise and consult with the Director on all matters relating to volunteer action in the State of Oklahoma;

2. Encourage working relationships between the public and private sectors in the field of volunteer action;

3. Assist in ensuring continued support for the operations of the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism;

4. Promote increased visibility and support for volunteers and volunteerism in meeting the needs of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma; and

5. Represent the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism on such occasions and in such manner as may be appropriate to carry out the provisions of this act.

SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8006 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Governor with the approval of the Oklahoma Volunteerism Council shall appoint an Executive Director of the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Executive Director shall be a full-time employee of the office and shall receive as compensation an annual salary which shall be fixed by the Council, unless otherwise provided by law, and he or she shall receive reimbursement for all actual and necessary travel expenses as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Executive Director shall employ such staff as is necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, subject to approval by the Council and authorization by the Oklahoma State Legislature. Each employee of the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism shall receive actual and necessary travel expenses as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8007 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism may receive and expend funds, grants, and services from the United States Government and agencies and instrumentalities thereof and any other source for reasonable purposes necessary to carry out a coordinated plan of voluntary action throughout the State of Oklahoma.

SECTION 8. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8008 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism to be designated the "Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of federal grants, state appropriations and monetary donations from any public or private source. All monies accruing to

the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism for any and all expenditures necessary for the operation of the agency.

Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

SECTION 9. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8009 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism may make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the provisions of this act.

SECTION 10. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8010 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Volunteerism Council shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this act in accordance with Article 1 of the Administrative Procedures Act, Sections 250.3 through 308.2 and Article II, Sections 309 through 323 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 11. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

43-2-1693

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