

ENROLLED HOUSE  
CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 1122

By: Stanley of the House

and

Mickle of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution relating to demonstration projects or pilot programs for search and rescue units; specifying criteria and rules; providing for requirements; providing for duties; specifying purpose; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, there are many counties of this state which do not have access to emergency equipment and personnel; and

WHEREAS, in many situations when emergency personnel are available, resources, equipment and additional technical personnel are scarce to provide the assistance needed; and

WHEREAS, in emergency situations, immediate response with adequate equipment and trained personnel makes a difference in the life or death of persons involved in such situations; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing trained personnel and adequate equipment is small compared to the value of saving a human life; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has a duty to protect the health and safety of its citizens and visitors to Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

SECTION 1. A. The State Department of Agriculture is authorized to implement a demonstration project or pilot program establishing a search and rescue unit in at least one county of this state.

B. The Department of Agriculture is authorized to provide funds and equipment from any available sources in development of such demonstration project or pilot program.

C. The Department of Agriculture shall develop program or project criteria and establish a process for consideration of applications for projects or programs. The State Board of Agriculture may promulgate rules for the operation of such proposals or projects for solicitation of proposals. Such rules or criteria shall include eligibility requirements for participation.

D. The pilot program or demonstration projects shall be operated through:

1. Fire protection districts organized and operated pursuant to the provisions of Sections 901.1 through 901.29 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

2. Volunteer or full-time fire departments established pursuant to Section 592 of Title 18 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3. Municipal fire departments organized and operated pursuant to the provisions of Sections 29-101 through 29-108, and Sections 29-201 through 29-205 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or

4. Fire protection services established pursuant to the provisions of Section 351 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

E. In developing criteria for determining eligibility for selection of a county for the operation of the program or project, the Department shall be guided by the following requirements:

1. The county must have a rural fire department as provided by subsection D of this section;
2. The county must need a land and lake rescue system;
3. The county must not have an emergency search and rescue unit or similar system available;
4. The county must be generally rural; and
5. The county must have technical first responder technicians and personnel available with the county.

F. Any emergency search and rescue unit established pursuant to this section, shall assist state and local officials in their performance of emergency procedures including ground search, chemical spills, dragging operations and water rescue.

SECTION 2. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Governor, the State Board of Agriculture and the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 26th day of May,  
1994.

of Speaker of the House  
s Representative

Adopted by the Senate the 27th day of May, 1994.

Senate President of the