

ENROLLED SENATE
JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 14

By: Rozell of the Senate

and

Settle, Satterfield, Roach,
Seikel, Mitchell and Stites
of the House

A Joint Resolution directing the Commission for Human Services to study, consider and analyze the effect of certain transfers and the desirability of certain placements; directing the Commission to avail itself of available legal procedures to protect certain interests; directing distribution; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma and all agencies of this state have an obligation to act in the best interest of all citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma has a special obligation to provide certain services to its citizens with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, recent independent professional studies have indicated that group homes provide the highest level of consumer satisfaction of all types of placements and may be the most appropriate living arrangement for some citizens with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma has limited resources and a constitutional obligation to act within certain budgetary limitations and therefore must carefully consider the fiscal impact of its policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. A. The Commission for Human Services is directed to carefully study, consider and analyze the effect of transferring medically fragile residents of the Hissom Memorial Center into the community to determine whether the transfer of such residents is in the best interests of the residents. The Commission shall also carefully study, consider and analyze the fiscal impact of such transfers.

B. The Commission for Human Services is directed to carefully study, consider and analyze the desirability of increased utilization of less costly community-based options such as foster care, adult companion care and group home care in the range of care provided to citizens with developmental disabilities and specifically to Hissom class members.

C. The Commission is directed to ensure as provided in the Hissom Consent Decree that the state is not spending more funds on an average per capita basis to maintain and serve clients in court-ordered community settings than was being spent to maintain and serve clients on an average per capita basis at the Hissom Memorial Center at the time the consent decree was entered. Should the cost of court-ordered community placements of Hissom class members exceed

the cost limit described above or should it be determined the cost of court-ordered community placements in the past has exceeded that cost limit, the Commission is directed to avail itself of all available legal procedures to protect the interests of its citizens with developmental disabilities, including Hisson class members, and to protect the fiscal interests of the state, including but not limited to seeking the modification of any consent decree which hinders or prevents the protection of such interests.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of State is hereby directed to distribute copies of this resolution to all members of the Commission for Human Services.

SECTION 3. 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 resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 26th day of April, 1993.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 12th day of May, 1993.

Speaker of the House of Representatives