

ENROLLED SENATE

RESOLUTION NO. 33 By: Gustafson, Easley, Shurden, Herbert and Muegge

A Resolution forming a committee to study the adequacy of the rules and regulations pertaining to the Pesticide Applicators Certification Program and certain chemicals; requiring public hearings; requiring a report; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of state government to protect the natural resources of the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, agriculture and wildlife are essential and vital parts of our state's overall economy; and

WHEREAS, pesticides with safe and proper use magnify the positive impact that agriculture and wildlife have on the state and federal economy; and

WHEREAS, there are a myriad of rules and regulations administered by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and several federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, it is clearly in the best interest of this state that all rules and regulations designed to protect the natural resources of the state should be evaluated in a timely fashion to ensure adequacy.

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

THAT the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Oklahoma State University, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Oklahoma Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, the Association of County Commissioners and the Oklahoma Municipal League shall form a study committee to evaluate the adequacy of the rules and regulations pertaining to the Pesticide Applicators Certification Program and any chemicals which may be or should be covered by the program and shall make recommendations to the Board of Agriculture for possible rule changes which will protect the natural resources of the state.

THAT a representative from the Department of Agriculture shall serve as chairman of the study committee and shall be able to call meetings.

THAT at least three public hearings regarding the Pesticide Applicators Certification Program be held in different areas of the state. Adequate notice for such hearings shall be by publication in all local newspapers in the areas where the public hearings are to be held and the publication shall be an expense of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture.

THAT members of this study committee who are employees of state agencies may receive travel reimbursement by their respective agencies for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Members of this study committee who are not employees of

state agencies shall receive no reimbursement for travel expenses or any other compensation.

THAT a final report be prepared and submitted to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Senate Natural Resources and House Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee, the Senate and House Agriculture Committees, the Senate and House Wildlife Committees, the Governor, and all agency directors by July 1, 1995.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to a representative of each group on the study committee.

Adopted by the Senate the 20th day of May, 1994.

President                      of the Senate