

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1894

By: Dunegan

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to poor persons; creating the Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Act; defining terms; requiring establishment of program; specifying conditions and criteria; requiring promulgation of rules by the Commission for Human Services; providing for contents; creating a Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Advisory Council; providing for membership; providing for appointment and duties; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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 701 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 702 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in the Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Act:

1. "Recipient" means a person eligible to receive services whether as a full participant or beneficiary;

2. "Full participant" means a person who is registered by a sponsoring organization to provide services and who receives service credits;

3. "Beneficiary" means a person who acts solely as a recipient and who is made eligible through the transfer of service credits from a donor or sponsor;

4. "Volunteer" means a person who is registered by a sponsoring organization to perform designated tasks for full participants and beneficiaries;

5. "Donor" means a volunteer registered with a sponsoring organization whose earned service credits will be transferred to a recipient or beneficiary;

6. "Sponsor" means an organization or agency which provides recruitment, referral, instructional facilities and support for the Program;

7. "Service credit" means the unit of exchange upon which the Program operates;

8. "Eligible tasks" means those designated activities which, when performed by a volunteer for a recipient, will result in the earning and the use of service credits;

9. "Matching process" means the administrative steps taken to bring an appropriate Volunteer into contact with a recipient who has requested services;

10. "Umbrella Agency" means the Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division which will coordinate the statewide Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program, providing policy and procedures, technical assistance and computerization of records;

11. "Volunteer coordinator" means a person responsible for coordinating a sponsor's program activities;

12. "Respite care" means the temporary relief provided to a caregiver who has twenty-four-hour responsibility for a homebound person living either with the caregiver or separately; and

13. "Volunteer service credit bank" means the program designed by the Division to provide service credits to qualified volunteers who provide in-home services.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 703 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Aging Services Division of the Department of Human Services shall establish a program to enable persons to volunteer their time and services to an in-home service or volunteer agency serving the homebound which is approved by the Division and receive credit for providing volunteer in-home service. The credit may then be drawn upon by such persons when they themselves or their families need such in-home services. Types of services rendered are in-home services which enhance the capacity of the recipient to maintain self-sufficiency and/or improve the recipient's quality of life. No income test shall be used to determine eligibility for service.

The Commission for Human Services shall promulgate rules necessary for the accomplishment of the purpose of the Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Act.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 704 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Commission shall promulgate rules regarding:

1. The sponsoring organizations, including but not limited to:
 - a. eligibility requirements for certification of local sponsoring organizations,
 - b. roles and responsibilities of the sponsoring organizations,

- c. provisions for the sponsoring organizations to establish program contribution procedures,
 - d. provisions for liability insurance for the sponsor and volunteers, and
 - e. provisions for written policies and procedures regarding confidentiality and recordkeeping;
2. Volunteers, including but not limited to:
- a. types of volunteers and eligibility criteria for same, whether receiving service credits or donating credits to a beneficiary,
 - b. procedures for making application to the Program,
 - c. training requirements, and
 - d. a volunteer code of ethics; and
3. Receiving service credits, including but not limited to:
- a. criteria for receipt of service credits,
 - b. the amount of credits to be awarded for different types of service, and
 - c. procedures for receiving service and drawing on the credit bank.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 705 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created a Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Advisory Council appointed by the Director of the Department of Human Services. The Council shall be composed of fifteen (15) members selected for their activity in aging and volunteer programs in Oklahoma. Membership will include, but not be limited to, representation from the State Council on Aging and the Oklahoma Business and Aging Leadership Council, the State ACTION director, an American Association of Retired Persons representative, a health agency professional, a State Unit on Aging staff member, an Area Agency on Aging director and volunteer agency personnel. Other

relevant volunteers and/or professionals will be invited to serve as appropriate. The members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses by the Department pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

B. The Division shall provide professional and clerical staff to perform the designated duties of the Council.

C. The Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program Advisory Council shall have the power and duty to:

1. Serve as the advisory body to the Division for the development and improvement of services to homebound individuals;
2. Advise and consult with the Division on all matters relating to the Volunteer Service Credit Bank Program; and
3. Evaluate and review the rules, practices and procedures regarding the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this act.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective September 1, 1994.

44-2-8063

KSM