

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE JOINT  
RESOLUTION NO. 1044

By: Henshaw

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution creating the Playground Equipment and Design Task Force; providing for composition of the Task Force; providing for appointments; providing for staff assistance; providing for selection of a chairman and vice-chairman; providing for the calling of a meeting; providing for purpose of Task Force; providing for travel reimbursement; requiring a report by a certain date; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the process of play is a natural and important aspect of a child's physical and mental development; and

WHEREAS, playgrounds are outdoor classrooms for children which can contribute to children's social, intellectual and emotional growth, as well as their physical development; and

WHEREAS, the quality and safety of the playground equipment and design of the play space are the most important aspects of a playground; and

WHEREAS, for the safety and development of children, playground equipment and play space should meet certain standards in design, product selection, installation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, a study of playground equipment and design and the development of a reference manual consolidating technical and safety standards for playground equipment and design for use by all persons associated with the development and maintenance of playgrounds in the state is warranted.

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

SECTION 1. A. There is hereby created, to continue until  
January 1, 1995, the Playground Equipment and Design Task Force.  
The Task Force shall conduct a comprehensive study of all aspects of  
outdoor playgrounds and play settings for all children. The Task  
Force shall be composed as follows:

1. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:
  - a. two members from the Oklahoma House of Representatives,
  - b. one member who is a consultant in playground design, playground equipment safety, and accessibility requirements,
  - c. one member who represents a national playground equipment manufacturer,
  - d. one member who is a landscape architect licensed by the State of Oklahoma,
  - e. one member who is an administrator in an Oklahoma public or private school system, who is responsible for playground maintenance,
  - f. one member who has an advanced degree in child development, and
  - g. one member who is an attorney licensed to practice law in this state.
2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint:
  - a. two members from the Oklahoma State Senate,
  - b. one member who is a consultant in playground design, playground equipment safety, and accessibility requirements,
  - c. one member who represents a national playground equipment manufacturer,

- d. one member who is a landscape architect licensed by the State of Oklahoma,
- e. one member who is an administrator in an Oklahoma public or private school system, who is responsible for playground maintenance,
- f. one member who has an advanced degree in child development, and
- g. one member who is an attorney licensed to practice law in this state.

3. Appointments shall be made by September 1, 1994. Staffing shall be provided by legislative staff and representatives from the state agencies whose duties are applicable to the purpose of the Task Force.

B. The Task Force shall select a chairman and vice-chairman from its membership. The Task Force shall meet at such times as may be set by the Chairman of the Task Force.

C. The purpose of the Task Force is to study all aspects of playground design and equipment, including safety and injury reduction, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) compliance, selection and technical performance of playground equipment pursuant to American Society for Testing Methods (ASTM) guidelines, child development criteria, accessibility for children with disabilities and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), installation, maintenance and management of outdoor playgrounds and improving education to the public. The Task Force shall develop a reference manual that reports the Task Force findings and compiles and reflects current federal guidelines, playground industry information and standards.

D. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by the house in which they serve for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

2. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by their respective appointing authority for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

E. The Task Force shall submit a copy of its manual to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by January 1, 1995.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declare to exist, by reason whereof this resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-2-7504

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