

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1054

By: Adair

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution creating the Task Force on Essential Government Functions and Public Finance; making findings regarding actions by federal government; making findings regarding demands for state and local government services; making findings regarding expenditures of public funds for essential government functions; recommending study of service delivery system; creating Task Force on Essential Government Functions and Public Finance; requiring Task Force to begin work by date certain; specifying scope of Task Force study; providing for membership of Task Force; providing for selection of chairperson and vice-chairperson; requiring final report; requiring filing; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for method to conduct meetings; specifying content of report; providing for dissolution of Task Force; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, state governments have experienced increasing demand for essential services and extraordinary services placing additional demand upon available resources and revenue; and

WHEREAS, action by the federal government has increased the demand upon state government and local government to provide services or have required such governments to make expenditures based upon federal mandates; and

WHEREAS, state governments will find it increasingly valuable to identify federal, state and local policies which affect the expenditure of public funds for the delivery of essential governmental functions; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the entire structure for funding of governmental programs in the State of Oklahoma would be

of assistance in helping Oklahoma meet the increasing demands upon its resources, both public and private; and

WHEREAS, no system exists for analyzing needs to provide essential government services or to assign priorities to functions based upon any definite criteria.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby created the Task Force on Essential Government Functions and Public Finance. The Task Force shall conduct a comprehensive analysis of the essential governmental functions performed by the State of Oklahoma and the extent to which the system for delivery might be improved by changing the existing structure for public finance to pay for such essential governmental services.

SECTION 2. The Task Force shall begin its study immediately after the sine die adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature on May 27, 1994 or no later than June 30, 1994. The Secretary of Finance and Revenue shall serve as temporary chairperson of the Task Force until the chairperson and vice-chairperson are officially selected.

SECTION 3. The Task Force shall conduct a thorough review of all essential government functions and the methods used to fund the expenditures associated with those functions. The Task Force shall develop recommendations specific to the Oklahoma Constitution, Oklahoma Statutes or other laws for modifications or additions to improve the quality of services provided by the State of Oklahoma to its citizens and to do so in a manner which fairly distributes both the public sector and the private sector cost for delivery.

SECTION 4. A. The Task Force shall be composed of the following persons who shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority:

1. Eight (8) members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. One member shall be from each Congressional District and two members shall be considered at-large;

2. Eight (8) members to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. One member shall be from each Congressional District and two members shall be considered at-large;

3. The following Cabinet Secretaries of the Executive Branch of the State of Oklahoma: Agriculture, Education, Environment, Finance and Revenue, Health and Human Services, Human Resources, Safety and Security, Tourism and Recreation, and Transportation; and

4. Cabinet Secretaries of the Executive Branch of the State of Oklahoma not listed in paragraph 3 of this subsection who shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members of the Task Force.

B. Each officeholder of state government shall provide necessary information and testify before the Task Force upon the request of the Task Force.

C. The Task Force shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its membership. The Task Force shall be authorized to meet from day to day as may be required in order to complete the duties and responsibilities assigned to it. The Task Force shall conduct its meetings in an open manner, but shall not be subject to the requirements of the Open Meeting Act. Reimbursement for travel shall be made pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

D. The Task Force shall submit a report containing a summary of its findings and recommendations not later than the first day authorized by law for the organization of the 1st Session of the 45th Oklahoma Legislature. Copies of the report shall be filed with the Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

E. The Task Force shall be dissolved by operation of law when the final report required by subsection D of this section is filed

and all business of the Task Force has been concluded, but in any event not later than thirty (30) days after the final report of the Task Force has been filed as required by this section.

SECTION 5. 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 act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-2-8358

MAH