

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
JOINT  
RESOLUTION NO. 1008

By: Dank of the House

and

Campbell of the Senate

A Joint Resolution relating to prisons; creating a task force to study the feasibility of establishing additional facilities to house prisoners; stating composition and procedures; establishing duties; requiring a report; and providing for travel reimbursement.

WHEREAS, the need to protect the public from violent criminals has become a critical concern that requires prompt action on the part of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the goal of maximum protection of the public, ways must be found to ensure that violent prisoners are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, length of incarceration must be dictated by the severity of the crime committed and the criminal history of the offender and not be restricted due to lack of prison space; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Legislature to explore all avenues to provide for adequate prison space within a sound budgetary framework.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. There is hereby created a legislative task force to study the need and advisability of establishing and maintaining additional facilities to house prisoners. The task force shall be composed of at least six members of the House of Representatives

appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and at least six members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Appointments shall be made within forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this resolution. The initial meeting of the task force shall be called by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The task force shall select a chair and vice-chair from its membership. The task force shall meet at such times as may be set by the chair of the task force. A majority of the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. The type of facility the task force shall consider would be a maximum or medium security facility, with appropriate security devices to prevent prison violence and escapes.

Section 3. The task force shall examine existing state facilities or any existing federal facilities which may be available for use as or for conversion to maximum or medium security prisons.

Section 4. The task force shall prepare a report by February 1, 1996, detailing the advisability of establishing prison facilities, the number of such facilities deemed necessary, estimated purchase costs, location of existing facilities which are available for use as prison facilities, any renovation costs, operational costs, and such other information deemed necessary. The report shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

Section 5. 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 duties prescribed by this resolution in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 1995.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1995.

President of the Senate