

ENGROSSED HOUSE
JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1033

By: Leist and Beutler of the
House

and

Easley of the Senate

A Joint Resolution relating to solid waste disposal; creating the Oklahoma Solid Waste Regional Study Committee; stating charge of Committee; providing for membership; providing for staff; providing for regional system; requiring the Department of Commerce to follow certain recommendations of the Committee; requiring Governor to include certain allocation and priority procedures in certain grants; providing for distribution; repealing Sections 1 through 5 of this resolution on a certain date; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, over the past thirty (30) years, the generation of solid waste has increased dramatically within our state; and

WHEREAS, state and local facilities are finding the siting of new disposal facilities increasingly difficult due to federal mandates; and

WHEREAS, the cost associated with municipal waste disposal has reached a level too difficult to fund without a better system of waste disposal management; and

WHEREAS, the state has historically lacked a coordinated effort among separate state agencies to achieve a comprehensive state solid waste management program; and

WHEREAS, the state receives federal funds for infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, the formation of a study committee would allow for the proposed revision of funding to facilities on a needed basis; and

WHEREAS, such a committee could propose a regional coordination for increased accessibility and response to determine the direct nature of changes to areas requiring assistance; and

WHEREAS, such a committee could easily be coordinated by existing personnel in various state departments under which this issue has a strong impact; and

WHEREAS, existing funds granted to development in rural municipal areas will provide an increased awareness and protection of areas surrounding waste disposal facilities and provide for safe and healthier municipalities; and

WHEREAS, strategic site planning by decision-makers allows the state and its communities to build a framework for working toward long-term solid waste management goals; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that there is a need for a comprehensive cost-effective system for disposal and management of solid waste and that the siting of solid waste facilities is a necessary step in developing such a system.

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 until January 1, 1996, the Oklahoma Solid Waste Regional Study Committee. The Committee shall be charged with the examination of existing solid waste facilities within the state, and determining the areas that are not currently receiving adequate service, based on population. The Committee is further directed to establish a system of regions within the state that may coordinate solid waste management efforts on a regional basis and establish a priority list with regard to the solid waste disposal needs of each identified region.

SECTION 2. A. The Oklahoma Solid Waste Regional Study Committee shall be coordinated by the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Environmental Quality. Membership shall be composed of the following members:

1. The Executive Director of the Waste Planning and Systems Development Office of the Department of Environmental Quality, who shall serve as chair;

2. The Director of the Division of Community Affairs and Development of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, or designee;

3. The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, or designee;

4. The Director of a statewide county commissioners organization, or designee;

5. The Director of a statewide municipal organization, or designee;

6. The Director of a statewide organization of regional councils of government, or designee;

7. A representative of an Oklahoma resource conservation and development district, to be appointed by the Director of the Conservation Commission; and

8. A representative of the Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service.

B. Staff to assist the Committee will be provided by the Department of Environmental Quality.

SECTION 3. The Committee shall establish the regional system within one month of passage of this resolution. The priorities list shall be determined no later than November 1, 1995.

SECTION 4. The Governor shall direct the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to include the allocation and priority procedures developed by the Committee for regional projects in future Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Plans. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall:

1. Dedicate regional project funds in the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Plan to resolving solid waste issues. The release of the regional project grant funds shall not be made until the Committee has completed its study; and

2. On and after December 1, 1995, follow the schedule of priorities proposed by the Committee for regions submitting applications in designating those funds in the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Plan set aside for regional projects.

SECTION 5. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Governor, the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, the Director of the Department of Agriculture, and the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

SECTION 6. REPEALER Sections 1 through 5 of this resolution shall be repealed effective January 1, 1996.

SECTION 7. 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 resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of March, 1995.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1995.

President of the Senate