

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 45th Legislature (1996)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2513

By: Bryant

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; stating legislative intent; creating an Oklahoma Commission on Volunteerism; providing for membership, terms, vacancies, officers, meetings, reimbursement, staff support and powers and duties of such Commission; limiting terms; repealing Sections 4 and 5, Chapter 340, O.S.L. 1992 (74 O.S. Supp. 1995, Sections 8004 and 8005), which relate to the Oklahoma Volunteerism Advisory Council; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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 8004.1 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

In furtherance of its obligation to advance the general welfare of the state, the Legislature is cognizant of its duty to assist all citizens in their efforts to address the problems in our communities on a local level. Therefore, the Legislature declares its intent that any inhibiting conditions caused by any factors which impede

the volunteers and volunteer actions to reach their full potential are matters of public concern.

A. There is hereby created an Oklahoma Commission on Volunteerism. The Commission shall be comprised of fifteen (15) members representing the many areas of voluntary involvement of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma. Five members each shall be appointed by the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. In making such appointments, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall give due consideration to the following:

1. Persons over sixty (60) years of age who actively volunteer in any organization;

2. A professional director of volunteer services in the public sector;

3. A representative of a statewide service club;

4. A professional offering technical assistance to a not-for-profit organization;

5. A representative of a state chapter of a national charitable organization;

6. A representative of an active volunteer organization;

7. A representative of business executives active in corporate volunteerism;

8. A representative of a statewide civic association;

9. A representative of a college or university active in volunteerism;

10. A representative of a self-help organization;

11. A professional director of a volunteer service in private industry;

12. A representative of a labor organization active in volunteerism;

13. A public relations or marketing professional;

14. A representative of Oklahoma volunteer centers; and
15. An active volunteer in a youth volunteer organization.

B. Members of the Oklahoma Commission on Volunteerism shall serve three-year terms and shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. No later than July 1, 1996, the Commission members shall be appointed as follows:

1. Members appointed by the Governor for a term ending July 1, 1999;

2. Members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate for a term ending July 1, 1998; and

3. Members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a term ending July 1, 1997.

C. Each member shall hold office until the successor of the member is appointed and has qualified. A member of the Commission may be removed by the appropriate appointing authority for cause. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of a term of a member separated from the Commission for any cause shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of the member whose office has been so vacated.

D. Members of the Commission shall elect from their number a chairperson to serve for a one-year term. In addition to a chair, members shall elect a vice-chairperson and any other officers deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Commission. Such election shall be held at the first meeting of the Commission and at the first meeting of each calendar year thereafter.

E. The Commission shall meet at least once every three (3) months, in addition to any meeting called by the chairperson when necessary.

F. Members of the Commission shall not receive any compensation except that provided by the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of this title, from funds available to the appropriate appointing authority.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8004.2 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Office of the Secretary of State shall provide staff support to support the work of the Oklahoma Commission on Volunteerism, as well as make arrangements for a suitable meeting space for the Commission as needed.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 8004.3 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Commission on Volunteerism shall have the power and duty to:

1. Act as an advisory entity on issues relating to volunteers and volunteerism in public agencies, private agencies, communities, organizations and businesses of this state which desire the services of the Commission;

2. Encourage working relationships between the public and private sectors in the field of volunteerism;

3. Act as a monitor on legislation which may impact volunteers or organizations utilizing volunteers;

4. Promote increased visibility and support for volunteers and volunteerism in meeting the needs of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma;

5. Act as a resource and a clearinghouse for research on issues relating to volunteers and volunteerism;

6. Conduct meetings and seminars within the state as appropriate to support the goals and duties of the Commission;

7. Foster and promote the recognition of the accomplishments of volunteers and volunteerism within the State of Oklahoma;

8. Make an annual report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of its activities under this act. Such report may

include recommendations concerning needed legislation or regulatory changes relating to volunteers; and

9. Represent the Commission and the State of Oklahoma on such occasions and in such manner as may be appropriate to carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Volunteerism Act.

SECTION 4. REPEALER Sections 4 and 5, Chapter 340, O.S.L. 1992 (74 O.S. Supp. 1995, Sections 8004 and 8005), are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 1996.

SECTION 6. 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.

45-2-8971

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