

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2138

By: Paulk of the House

and

Herbert of the Senate

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to public finance; amending 62 O.S. 1991, Section 41.5h, which relates to the Information Services Division of the Office of State Finance; prohibiting use of automated telephone answering systems by entities of state government during regular hours of operation; requiring Director of State Finance to ensure compliance; providing exception; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 1991, Section 41.5h, is amended to read as follows:

Section 41.5h A. The Information Services Division of the Office of State Finance is directed, authorized and empowered to establish criteria for and manage the installation, maintenance and administration of a central communication or intercommunication system for and upon behalf of this state, the installation shall fulfill communication or intercommunications requirements of this state and its agencies located in the Capitol and those buildings situated on the Capitol grounds, known as the "Capitol Complex" in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and the state owned building known as the "Tulsa Capitol Building" in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

B. The Division shall render a statement of charges at the end of each month to all state agencies to which it has furnished communications services for the direct cost sustained, provided that:

1. A pro-rata formula is to be established in writing after giving consideration to the type of service furnished, the number and kinds of instruments used, the cost of operation and special installations required in each such agency in relation to the total cost of local service. The formula, once determined, is not to be redetermined more often than once every six (6) months nor to be changed after any such redetermination before the expiration of six (6) months; and

2. The Division is to be reimbursed by the state or any of its agencies for actual cost incurred for equipment installation or modification or for toll charges for use of telephone, telegraph, teletype, data communications or other form or forms of communication or intercommunication incurred by the state or by any agency.

C. No telephone, teletype, switchboard, line, cable system, data communication system or systems of communication or intercommunication are to be installed in any building or buildings owned, rented, leased or otherwise held by this state or its agencies at locations described in subsection A of this section without written order of the Director of State Finance. Provided, however, that acquisition and installation of such equipment in the House of Representatives shall be subject to the final approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

D. No state agency, board, commission, department, or any other entity of state government shall be allowed to use an automated telephone system for answering telephone calls placed to the entity during its regular hours of operation. The Director of State Finance shall ensure that each entity of state government establishes a procedure for answering telephone calls placed to the entity during its regular business hours so that a person placing a call to the entity is allowed to speak to an employee of the entity and is not required to listen to a recorded message of any kind. The Interactive Voice Response System operated by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission for the purpose of facilitating unemployment insurance benefit claims shall be excluded from the operation of this subsection.

E. The employees of the Centrex Unit of the Communications Division of the Office of Public Affairs, and the funds, records, equipment, furniture and fixtures, files and supplies, of whatsoever kind and character now utilized by the Centrex Unit shall be and are ordered transferred to the Information Services Division of the Office of State Finance.

~~E.~~ F. No employee transferred pursuant to subsection ~~D~~ E of this section shall be required to accept a lesser grade of salary than presently received plus any salary adjustments provided by the Legislature for state employees, and no entrance examination shall be required for continued employment in the same or similar positions with the Office of State Finance.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. 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.

46-1-6955

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