

SHORT TITLE: Re-creating the Oklahoma Council on Violence  
Prevention; distribution; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE JOINT  
RESOLUTION NO. 16

By: Monson

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution re-creating the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention; providing for continuation of the mission of the Council, Council composition, provision of adequate representation of certain groups on the Council, Council function, provision of certain support services by certain entities, and compensation of members; authorizing certain review and revision for certain purpose; providing for certain annual report; directing distribution; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, Enrolled House Concurrent Resolution No. 1021 of the 1st Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature, in creating the Violence and Public Health Committee, cited an article from the Journal of the National Medical Association, "Violence: A Challenge to the Public Health Community", which stated that: "The increasing violence indicates that Americans are growing angrier and a lot more willing to use something other than nonviolent, rational discussion to settle disputes and to relieve inner anxieties, frustration, and tensions caused by a broad range of social and economic pressures. These developments are exposing today's children to violence in their homes, on the streets, at school, and in the community at large. Thus, there is a new generation that is more fearful, more cynical, and dangerously numbed to the health and social consequences of violent acts."; and

WHEREAS, in its final report, the Violence and Public Health Committee recommended creation of the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention in order to further its mission of organizing the state's resources and facilitating cooperation between various state

agencies and other entities responsible for issues related to violence, thereby reducing the incidence of violence in this state by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, Enrolled House Concurrent Resolution No. 1111 of the 2nd Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature created the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention which has as its mission to set priorities for all state agencies in combatting violence pursuant to recommendations set forth in the final report of the Violence and Public Health Committee; and

WHEREAS, Enrolled House Concurrent Resolution No. 1002 of the 1st Session of the 46th Oklahoma Legislature re-created the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention until January 1, 1998; and

WHEREAS, violent and abusive behavior continues to be one of the most compelling and pervasive public health problems of this decade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. A. There is hereby re-created until January 1, 2003, the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention.

B. The Council shall continue in its mission to set priorities for all state agencies in combatting violence according to recommendations set forth in the report of the Oklahoma Committee on Violence and Public Health. The Council may revisit and revise the report's findings and recommendations in order to remain abreast of current trends and developments in the area of violence prevention.

C. The Council shall continue to be composed of:

1. Cabinet secretaries and state department and agency heads or their designees responsible for health, human services, mental health and substance abuse, juvenile services, education, corrections, and public safety;

2. The Chancellor of Higher Education;

3. A representative from each of the following:

a. the Oklahoma State Medical Association,

- b. the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association,
- c. the Oklahoma Public Health Association,
- d. the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers,
- e. the Oklahoma Social Work Educators,
- f. the Oklahoma Nurses Association,
- g. the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce, and
- h. the Oklahoma Municipal League; and

4. Representation from other appropriate public and private sector groups.

D. The Council shall continue to provide for adequate representation of women and minority groups including, but not limited to, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans.

E. The Council shall function under the direction of the Oklahoma Sentencing Commission. The steering committee designated by the Oklahoma Criminal Justice Resource Center shall continue its functions in consultation with the State Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of Public Safety. These entities shall further continue to provide necessary support services to the Council and the steering committee with existing personnel.

F. The Council shall issue a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the reduction of violence in the state to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives not later than the beginning of the 1st Session of the 49th Oklahoma Legislature (2003); provided, however, the Council shall annually report to these entities regarding its status, progress and plans.

G. Members of the Council shall continue to serve without compensation, but may continue to be reimbursed by their respective appointing authorities in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of State shall distribute copies of this resolution to the State Commissioner of Health, the Director of Human Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Director of the Department of Corrections, the Chancellor of Higher Education, the Director of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, and directors of the following organizations: the Oklahoma State Medical Association, the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, the Oklahoma Public Health Association, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, the Oklahoma Social Work Educators, the Oklahoma Nurses Association, the Office of Juvenile Affairs, the Office of the Department of Vocational and Technical Education, and the Oklahoma Municipal League.

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.

46-2-2569

CJ