

ENGROSSED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1021

By: Benson, Bonny, Dunegan, Matlock, Adair, Adkins, Askins, Begley, Benge, Beutler, Blackburn, Boyd, Braddock, Bryant, Calvey, Case, Claunch, Coleman, Collins, Corn, Covey, Cox, Culver, Dank, Davis, Deutschendorf, Easley, Eddins, Ervin, Erwin, Ferguson, Fields, Frame, Gilbert, Glover, Graves, Gray, Greenwood, Hastings, Hefner, Hiett, Hilliard, Hutchison, Ingmire, Jones, Kinnamon, Kirby, Kouba, Langmacher, Leist, Lindley, Liotta, Maddux, Mass, McCarter, Miller, Mitchell, Morgan, Nance, Nations, Newport, Ostrander, Paulk, Perry, Pettigrew, Phillips, Piatt, Plunk, Pope (Clay), Pope (Tim), Reese, Rice, Roach, Roberts, Roggow, Ross, Seikel, Sellers, Settle, Smith (Dale), Smith (Hopper), Staggs, Stanley, Stites, Sullivan (John), Sullivan (Leonard), Sweeden, Taylor, Thomas, Thornbrugh, Toure, Turner, Tyler, Vaughn, Weaver, Webb, Wells, Wilt, Winchester, Worthen and Wright of the House

and

Rabon of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution relating to job training programs; making certain findings regarding Job Training Partnership Act; acknowledging value of existing Service Delivery Areas for purposes of managing federal job training block grants; requesting maximum utilization of existing Service Delivery Areas; requesting use of existing geographic areas for purposes of implementation of Workforce Investment Act of 1998; requesting exercise of care with respect to modifications in the existing job training delivery system; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in 1982, Congress enacted the Job Training Partnership Act, designed to assist persons who might otherwise be unemployed or underemployed in obtaining gainful employment or improving their job skills for higher use of those skills; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, the State of Oklahoma provided for the creation of a State Job Training Coordinating Council which has assisted in the administration of the Job Training Partnership Act block grant funding and in the implementation of a state job training program since the inception of the federal job training program; and

WHEREAS, Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) have long been established in the State of Oklahoma as an effective method for the implementation of federal job training block grant programs; and

WHEREAS, substate planning districts and other entities have almost twenty (20) years of experience, technical resources and other tools for the effective administration of federal job training programs; and

WHEREAS, the experience of the existing Service Delivery Areas and the working relationships the SDAs have created are an invaluable asset that can provide further value to local workforce investment boards; and

WHEREAS, the existing Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) designated to administer the Job Training Partnership Act and its associated block grants have performed their respective duties and responsibilities with excellent results for the labor force and employers in the State of Oklahoma over a period of almost twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Congress has modified certain provisions of the Job Training Partnership Act and most recently by providing for the creation of a State Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, changes in the system or the methodology for administering the Job Training Partnership Act, and successor federal statutes governing job training, pose a significant risk for the disruption of effective delivery of critical job training programs both for current and prospective employees and pose a risk for all potential employers in the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, any proposed modifications to the method or system by which federal job training and related federal block grants are distributed should be undertaken with great care and with careful study prior to implementation because of the risk for negative impact to the existing and proven system for job training long established in Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the State Workforce Investment Board, however denominated, authorized by federal law pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 2821, exercise the most deliberate consideration prior to implementing modifications to the system by which and the designated areas through which federal job training and related federal block grant funds are distributed.

THAT the existing network and system of Service Delivery Areas which have demonstrated positive results in the administration of federal job training programs be continued in force and effect for purposes of implementing the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220.

THAT the existing network and system of Service Delivery Areas be used in their current configuration either alone or in conjunction with local workforce investment boards in order to avoid harm to the mechanism by which job training skills are provided to the citizens of the State of Oklahoma.

THAT all state agencies, boards, commissions and departments charged with responsibility pursuant to federal law for the management, distribution, expenditure and accounting of both federal and state funds for the implementation of federal block grants related to job training should exercise the most extreme care in modifying the existing system for the management of the federal job

training programs and refrain from action that could jeopardize the existing job training programs in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to each member of the State Workforce Investment Board, the Governor, the Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Director of the State System for Vocational-Technical Education and the chief administrative officer of any agency of the executive branch of government having duties or responsibilities related to the implementation of the federal job training program.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 18th day of March, 1999.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Adopted by the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1999.

President of the Senate