

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1061____

By: Bonny of the House

and

Price and Johnson of the
Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution requesting that the USDA Agricultural Research Service's facility not be considered excess to the needs of the USDA; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the USDA Agricultural Research Service's facility located at El Reno, Oklahoma, is vital to the farmers and ranchers of the southern Great Plains, a region that contains 25% of all U.S. pastureland, as well as an equal proportion of the nation's native rangelands; and

WHEREAS, research from the facility reduces the high level of risk inherent in agricultural production, helping to stabilize the region's farm economy; and

WHEREAS, agricultural problems are addressed at the facility with a team of scientists with expertise in the four areas of science most critical to solving problems specific to the region; and

WHEREAS, the facility at El Reno is unusual among agricultural research locations in that all resources necessary to conduct farm- and ranch-scale research across a broad range of problems are present on its 6,700 acres; and

WHEREAS, this facility is a much needed and important facility for all of the southern Great Plains region; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, sent a letter to Mr. Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture, requesting that Mr. Glickman consider declaring excess to USDA's needs all or part of the land currently utilized by the agricultural research facility at El Reno.

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 Oklahoma Legislature formally requests that Mr. Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture, consider keeping the USDA Agricultural Research Service's facility at Fort Reno and not declare any part of such facility excess to USDA's needs.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Mr. Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture, and Mr. Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior.

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