

EHB 1895

1 THE STATE SENATE
2 Tuesday, April 3, 2001

3 ENGROSSED

4 House Bill No. 1895

5 As Amended

6 ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1895 - By: ROGGOW, SMITH (Dale), BEGLEY,
7 ERVIN and TURNER of the House and FISHER of the Senate.

8 An Act relating to economic development; providing for
9 creation of the Oklahoma Small Community Economic
10 Development Incentive Task Force; providing for membership;
11 prescribing procedures for organization of Task Force;
12 prescribing purposes of Task Force and imposing certain
13 duties; providing for assistance by certain state agencies;
14 providing for staff assistance; providing for codification;
15 providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3600 of Title 68, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. There is hereby created **until January 1, 2002**, the "Oklahoma
21 Small Community Economic Development Incentive Task Force". The
22 Task Force shall be composed of seven (7) persons to be appointed as
23 follows:

24 1. One person to be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma
25 House of Representatives;

26 2. One person to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
27 the Oklahoma State Senate;

1 3. One person to be appointed by the Governor;

2 4. Two persons to be appointed by the Executive Director of the
3 Oklahoma Department of Commerce with the advice of the Cabinet
4 Secretary for Economic Development and Special Affairs;

5 5. One person who may either be the Chair of the Economic
6 Development Committee of the Oklahoma House of Representatives or
7 the designee of the chair; and

8 6. One person who may either be the Chair of the Economic
9 Development Committee of the Oklahoma State Senate or the designee
10 of the chair.

11 B. The Task Force shall hold its first meeting not later than
12 ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act. The members
13 of the Task Force shall select a person from among its membership to
14 serve as chair. The Task Force is authorized to meet as often as
15 required in order to perform the duties imposed upon it.

16 C. The purpose of the Task Force shall be to:

17 1. Examine the current economic development incentives
18 available to or currently used by small communities within the State
19 of Oklahoma in order to promote high quality employment and business
20 activity within or near small communities of the state;

21 2. Develop proposals for modifications to existing economic
22 development incentives or the creation of additional incentives
23 which would promote the location or expansion of private sector

1 business activity or governmental activity within or near small
2 communities in the state with the objective of increasing quality
3 employment opportunities for the Oklahoma workforce. For purposes
4 of this act, the Task Force shall emphasize incentives to benefit
5 communities with a population not in excess of seven thousand
6 (7,000) persons according to the latest Federal Decennial Census or
7 most recent population estimate; and

8 3. Examine possible modifications or adaptations to the
9 Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act which could serve as the basis for
10 an economic development incentive program specifically applicable to
11 small communities within the state as defined by paragraph 2 of this
12 subsection.

13 D. The Task Force shall submit a written report of its
14 findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Speaker of the
15 Oklahoma House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the
16 Oklahoma State Senate and the Governor not later than December 31,
17 2001.

18 E. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce, the Oklahoma Tax
19 Commission, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and other
20 agencies of state government shall provide such assistance to the
21 Task Force as the Task Force may require in order to perform the
22 duties imposed upon it.

1 F. The Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State
2 Senate shall provide such staff assistance to the Task Force as may
3 be required.

4 G. Members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed **by their**
5 **appointing authority** for travel to meetings of the Task Force
6 pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act. Legislators who
7 serve as members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed for travel to
8 meetings pursuant to Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
9 Statutes.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

11 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
12 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, dated
16 3-29-01 - DO PASS, As Amended.