

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 611

By: Littlefield

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state employees; amending Section 5, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1996 (74 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 840-2.20A), which relates to agency closings; providing for paid administrative leave for certain employees when agencies are closed for hazardous weather; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1996 (74 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 840-2.20A), is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-2.20A A. When an agency of the State of Oklahoma or part of such an agency is closed because of an imminent peril threatening the public health, safety, or welfare of state employees or the public, the appointing authority shall place employees who are scheduled to work in the closed area on paid administrative leave or shall assign them to work in another location. Employees who are on paid administrative leave shall be in standby or on-call status during their normal scheduled duty hours. The appointing authority may call such employees to return to their normal duties and work location or respond to the demands of the situation as necessary.

B. When the Governor or a designee of the Governor authorizes agencies or parts of agencies to maintain basic minimum services because hazardous weather conditions impede or delay the movement of employees to and from work, employees responsible for providing such basic minimum services shall report to work. Appointing authorities

of agencies shall be responsible for determining essential agency functions and ensuring that employees who staff such functions are so informed. Leave alternatives for those employees not responsible for basic minimum services shall be established by the Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management. However, when the Governor or a designee of the Governor authorizes an agency or agencies to close with no minimum services being provided due to hazardous weather conditions, the appointing authority of such closed agency or agencies shall place the employees who are scheduled to work in the closed area on paid administrative leave.

C. Appointing authorities of affected agencies shall notify the Office of Personnel Management of agency closings and reductions in services pursuant to this section.

D. The provisions of this section are applicable to agencies and employees in the executive department of state government, including those on temporary and other limited term appointments. The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to employees of institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

E. The Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management shall adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

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

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.