

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE CONCURRENT

RESOLUTION HCR1056:

Boren of the House

and

Coates of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution relating to certain economic conditions; making findings regarding trends in national economy; making findings regarding certain economic conditions in certain areas of the State of Oklahoma; requesting certain assistance from Oklahoma Department of Commerce and Oklahoma Employment Security Commission; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma has experienced some of the same effects as other states and the nation with respect to competitive pressures on business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma recognizes the value of economic competition, but also recognizes that decisions regarding location of capital assets and employment have an enormous impact on local communities that depend upon viable business activity; and

WHEREAS, decisions by business entities that are intended to promote profitable activity and the accumulation of earnings sometimes have adverse effects upon communities and the people who reside in those communities and who depend upon business transactions for their livelihood; and

WHEREAS, recent trends, especially with regard to manufacturing activity and the labor force that supports such manufacturing activity, indicate that productive capacity is mobile and is not necessarily dependent upon locations within the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, all states are engaged in efforts to recruit and retain viable business activity within their respective borders in order to promote capital formation, personal wealth, community development and a sense of security for their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Seminole County, Oklahoma, has experienced some significant declines in manufacturing activity and a related decline in employment levels in recent months; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma has some resources, either through access to federal programs or state initiatives, that can reduce the adverse impact of declines in manufacturing activity and the resulting reductions in employment or wages that sometimes accompany such declines; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the State of Oklahoma, like other states, to make such efforts as may be feasible in order to promote economic development and to take such actions as may be proper to protect local communities from the effects of downsizing or changes in the business cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Department of Commerce take such steps and actions as may be authorized by law to assist Seminole County and communities located in Seminole County with regard to the effects of recent declines in manufacturing activity.

THAT the Oklahoma Department of Commerce examine ways in which the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Small Cities Program or other programs involving distribution of federal funds might be of assistance to either governmental entities or private business entities within the Seminole County area.

THAT the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission take such action as may be authorized to assist former employees or employees who have experienced reductions in wages or hours for work.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature take such actions, including appropriations of funds to applicable entities, in order to lessen the adverse effects of declines in manufacturing activity and to assist persons adversely affected by such declines through available incentives, programs or other resources.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, the Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Chair of the Appropriations and Budget Committee of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

49-2-8641

MAH

03/03/04