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THE STATE SENATE
Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Senate Bill No. 1957
As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 1957 - By: Sykes of the Senate and DeWitt of the House.

An Act relating to counties and county officers; requiring substate planning districts to **employ** certain person; setting out duties; providing leadership and support to Rural Fire Coordinators; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 901.62 of Title 19, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Each substate planning district within the State of Oklahoma that has a Rural Fire Coordinator Program as of January 1, 2010, shall **employ** a Rural Fire Coordinator. The Rural Fire Coordinator shall work with rural fire departments to provide **his or her** expertise and experience in solving local problems related to equipment, staffing, and funding. In addition, the Rural Fire Coordinator shall:

1. Provide technical assistance to the rural fire department in the development of their equipment, communications system, and training programs;

1 2. Administer state and federal grant programs to assist rural
2 fire departments within established guidelines and procedures to
3 obtain financial assistance to improve their fire protection
4 capabilities;

5 3. Coordinate efforts of the rural fire departments with those
6 of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to
7 manage fire suppression throughout the state during periods of
8 emergency; and

9 4. Provide certification of rural fire departments in the
10 district in compliance with Section 901.56 of Title 19 of the
11 Oklahoma Statutes.

12 B. The Oklahoma Forestry Services Division of the Oklahoma
13 Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall provide
14 leadership and support to the Rural Fire Coordinators.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT, dated 2-15-10
17 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.