

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1022

 By: Morrissette

6
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution supporting the Resource Conservation and
9 Development Program in Oklahoma.

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12 WHEREAS, the United States Congress created the Resource
13 Conservation & Development (RC&D) Program and authorized nine RC&D
14 districts within the State of Oklahoma and charged them with
15 developing programs to enhance the standard of living for the
16 citizens of Oklahoma through locally elected nonprofit volunteer
17 organizations, and, further, provided support for these local RC&D
18 Councils through small amounts of financial assistance and loaned
19 United States Department of Agriculture executives to provide
20 technical assistance; and

21 WHEREAS, the nine Oklahoma RC&D Councils, have become actively
22 engaged in community and resource development, and have become an
23 essential component in Oklahoma's overall economic development

1 effort, not requiring state funding and, despite program cuts, have
2 leveraged their federal appropriation for Oklahoma citizens by
3 adding almost Thirteen Dollars to the state's economy for every One
4 Dollar of federal assistance; and

5 WHEREAS, during the past year alone, the RC&D Councils in
6 Oklahoma accomplished the following:

7 New businesses developed: 27,

8 Business retained or expanded: 305,

9 Direct monetary support for businesses: 3.168 Million Dollars,

10 Value added products assisted to market: 65,

11 Agritourism venues opened or expanded: 125,

12 On-farm jobs created or retained: 188,

13 Off-farm jobs created or retained: 207,

14 Acres conserved for recreation: 17,193,

15 Tourism, historic, cultural, or museum sites enhanced: 88,

16 Rural fire and disaster or emergency preparedness projects: 18,

17 Community health care improvements: 42,

18 Wastewater systems improved or repaired: 15,

19 Tribal nations working as project partners: 26, and

20 Dollars leveraged for project completions: 14.162 Million

21 Dollars, plus a much larger impact that has not been determined; and

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1 WHEREAS, nationally, in 2010, 375 RC&D Councils created over
2 35,000 new jobs, retained 15,000 jobs, and assisted 6,700
3 businesses; and

4 WHEREAS, federal funding for the RC&D is now endangered because
5 of proposed funding cuts.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

8 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature supports the RC&D program in
9 Oklahoma and requests that the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation
10 support continuing funding for the Resource Conservation and
11 Development Program.

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13 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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