

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 18, 2014

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 1959

By: Burrage and Ellis of the
Senate

6 and

7 Sherrer of the House

8
9 An Act relating to tourism and recreation; creating
10 the Rural Tourism Protection Act; providing short
11 title; defining term; requiring the Oklahoma Tourism
12 and Recreation Department to notify municipalities
13 regarding changes in service; allowing for certain
14 exceptions to notification; providing for
15 codification; and providing an effective date.

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 2215.1 of Title 74, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. This act shall be known as the "Rural Tourism Protection
21 Act".

22 B. As used in this section, the term "change in services" means
23 the:

24 1. Reduction by fifty percent (50%) or more of the hours of
operation or services; or

1 2. Closure of any state park, parkland or public recreation
2 facility under the jurisdiction and control of the Oklahoma Tourism
3 and Recreation Department.

4 C. Prior to making a change in services, the Department shall
5 provide sixty (60) days' notice to the governing authority of each
6 municipality and county in which any part of the state park,
7 parkland, public recreation facility or recreational area is located
8 regarding the specific proposed change in services. The notice
9 required by this subsection shall be made in writing and sent to the
10 applicable chairperson of the county commissioners and the mayor of
11 the municipality.

12 D. Section 1 of this act shall not apply in cases of natural
13 disasters and acts of nature including, but not limited to, severe
14 drought, flooding, wild fires, tornadoes, or earthquakes.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2014.

16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND WILDLIFE
17 February 18, 2014 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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