

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 19, 2014

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 3156

By: Wright of the House

5 and

6 Brinkley of the Senate

7  
8 An Act relating to public health and safety; creating  
9 the Oklahoma First Informer Broadcasters Act;  
10 defining certain terms; permitting broadcasters to  
11 develop certain plans relating to emergencies;  
12 permitting certain organization to establish program  
13 to train and certify first informer broadcasters;  
14 establishing certain criteria of program; requiring  
15 state and local agencies to allow first informer  
16 broadcaster to access certain area for certain  
17 purpose; providing for codification; and declaring an  
18 emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 683.35 of Title 63, unless there  
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma First  
Informer Broadcasters Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 683.36 of Title 63, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1       A. As defined in this section:

2       1. "Broadcaster" means a radio broadcasting station or  
3 television broadcasting station primarily engaged in, and deriving  
4 income from, the business of facilitating speech via over-the-air  
5 communications, both as to pure speech and commercial speech; and

6       2. "First informer broadcaster" means a person who has been  
7 certified as a first informer broadcaster pursuant to subsection C  
8 of this section.

9       B. Broadcasters in this state may, in cooperation with the  
10 Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and a statewide  
11 organization that represents radio and television broadcasters,  
12 develop comprehensive, coordinated plans for preparing for and  
13 responding appropriately to an emergency or disaster.

14       C. A statewide organization that represents radio and  
15 television broadcasters may establish a program for training and  
16 certifying broadcast engineers and technical personnel as first  
17 informer broadcasters. The program established pursuant to this  
18 subsection shall:

19       1. Be consistent with federal law and guidelines;

20       2. Provide training and education concerning restoring,  
21 repairing and resupplying any facilities and equipment of a  
22 broadcaster in an area affected by an emergency or disaster; and  
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1        3. Provide training and education concerning the personal  
2 safety of a first informer broadcaster in an area affected by an  
3 emergency or disaster.

4        D. To the extent practicable and consistent with not  
5 endangering public safety or inhibiting recovery efforts, state and  
6 local governmental agencies shall allow a first informer broadcaster  
7 access to an area affected by an emergency or disaster for the  
8 purpose of restoring, repairing, or resupplying any facility or  
9 equipment critical to the ability of a broadcaster to acquire,  
10 produce, and transmit essential emergency or disaster-related public  
11 information programming, including, without limitation, repairing  
12 and maintaining transmitters and generators, and transporting fuel  
13 for generators.

14        SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
15 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
16 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
19 March 19, 2014 - DO PASS  
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