

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 16, 2015

3 SENATE BILL NO. 719

By: Sykes

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6 An Act relating to substate planning districts;
7 requiring substate planning districts to participate
8 in certain program under certain circumstances;
9 setting out duties; providing for leadership and
10 support to rural fire coordinators; providing for
11 codification; and providing an effective date.

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

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

16 The office of the State Fire Marshal shall administer the Rural
17 Fire Coordinator Program. Any substate planning district that has
18 employed a rural fire coordinator prior to January 1, 2015, shall
19 participate in the Rural Fire Coordinator Program. The rural fire
20 coordinator shall work with rural fire departments to provide
21 expertise and experience in solving local problems related to
22 equipment, staffing, and funding. In addition, the rural fire
23 coordinator shall:
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1 1. Provide technical assistance to the rural fire departments
2 in the development of their equipment, communications system, and
3 training programs;

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

8 3. Coordinate efforts of the rural fire departments with those
9 of the State Fire Marshal to manage fire suppression throughout the
10 state during periods of emergency; and

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

14 Rural fire coordinators shall be able to participate in the
15 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System through the office of
16 the State Fire Marshal.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT
19 February 16, 2015 - DO PASS
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