

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 3156

By: Wright of the House

and

Brinkley of the Senate

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

SUBJECT: Oklahoma First Informer Broadcasters Act

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 683.35 of Title 63, unless there 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:

A. As defined in this section:

1. "Broadcaster" means a radio broadcasting station or television broadcasting station primarily engaged in, and deriving

income from, the business of facilitating speech via over-the-air communications, both as to pure speech and commercial speech; and

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

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

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

1. Be consistent with federal law and guidelines;

2. Provide training and education concerning restoring, repairing and resupplying any facilities and equipment of a broadcaster in an area affected by an emergency or disaster; and

3. Provide training and education concerning the personal safety of a first informer broadcaster in an area affected by an emergency or disaster.

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

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

Passed the House of Representatives the 27th day of February, 2014.

Mike Jones
Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 15th day of April, 2014.

Eddie Finkel
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 16th
day of April, 20 14, at 3:20 o'clock P M.

By: Audrey Rockwell

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 22nd
day of April, 20 14, at 3:07 o'clock P M.

Mary Fallin
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 22nd
day of April, 20 14, at 4:17 o'clock P M.

By: Chris Benge