

# An Act

ENROLLED SENATE  
BILL NO. 2260

By: Russell, Jolley and  
Garrison of the Senate

and

Wesselhoft of the House

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Section 840-2.24, which relates to specialized disaster relief services; authorizing leave time for participation in Civil Air Patrol disaster services; encouraging private employers to participate in volunteer disaster service programs; making language gender neutral; encouraging school districts to participate in volunteer disaster service programs; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 840-2.24, is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-2.24 A. 1. As used in this subsection, "disaster" means disasters designated at level III and above in the American Red Cross Regulations and Procedures.

2. Any state employee in the executive branch of state government who is a certified disaster service volunteer of the American Red Cross or a member of the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, with the authorization of the chief executive officer of ~~his~~ the state agency, may be granted a leave with pay not to exceed fifteen (15) working days in any twelve-month period to participate in specialized disaster relief services within the State of Oklahoma for the American Red Cross or the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, upon the request of the

American Red Cross or the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol and with the approval of the office of the Governor of this state, without the loss of pay, annual leave, sick leave, accrued overtime wages or compensatory time. The agency shall compensate an employee granted leave time under this section at his or her regular rate of pay for those regular work hours during which the employee is absent from work.

3. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2 of this subsection, state employees certified as disaster volunteers shall not exceed five hundred (500) participants at any one time. A list of such employees will be coordinated with the Department of Civil Emergency Management and the office of the Governor of this state. Within sixty (60) days of any request made by the American Red Cross or the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, a report shall be prepared by the American Red Cross or the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol and submitted to the Governor's office stating the reasons and needs for any request made.

B. Any state officer or employee in the executive branch of state government authorized by the employing agency of the officer or employee to volunteer in a disaster relief activity during a presidentially declared national disaster in Oklahoma after May 1, 1999, for a period of not more than six (6) months after the date of the presidentially declared national disaster, shall not have to use accrued leave or need to make up any time due to the performance of their volunteer activities.

C. Private employers are encouraged to allow their employees to take leave in order to participate in volunteer disaster service programs.

D. School administrators are encouraged to allow students, sixteen (16) years of age or older to be out of school to participate in volunteer disaster service programs.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

Passed the Senate the 25th day of February, 2010.

*A. Baya Marshall*

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of April, 2010.

*Chris Steele*

Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Received by the Governor this 7<sup>th</sup>  
day of April, 2010,  
at 3:11 o'clock P M.

By: *[Signature]*

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma the 12<sup>th</sup> day of  
April, 2010, at 6:32 o'clock P M.

*[Signature]*  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

Received by the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_  
13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010,  
at 3:50 o'clock P M.

By: *M. Susan Conway*