

OPM 98-62

DATE: October 13, 1998

TO: All Appointing Authorities

FROM: Oscar B. Jackson, Jr.
Administrator and Cabinet Secretary of Human Resources

RE: Millennium 2000 Compliance

Recently Representative Abe Deuschendorf sent a memo to all state agencies concerning suggestions to assist agencies with Millennium 2000 compliance. The suggestions are timely and helpful. I would like to address two issues raised in that memo.

Programmer Sharing

State computer programmers, applications specialists, and system specialists may be employed by other state agencies on a part or full-time basis. Such secondary employment cannot interfere with the employee's current position. Agencies may hire these employees, subject to their budgetary limitations. House Bill 2737, passed and signed this last legislative session, permits agencies to employ Millennium programmers in the unclassified service. Persons hired under this legislation do not count against the agency's FTE limit.

It is recommended that each agency D.P. Director contact other agency D.P. shops, through appropriate channels, concerning Millennium 2000 compliance programming needs and staff availability. Questions concerning hiring procedures for part-time programmers may be directed to Mr. Tom Impson, OPM Recruitment Division at 405-521-6306.

Audit Performance Options

Agency data processing units are most familiar with each other's personnel capabilities and expertise. There is nothing in the Oklahoma Personnel Act that precludes the utilization of another agency's programming personnel to audit the Millennium 2000 compliance status with another agency on a periodic basis. It is recommended that agencies in need of these services directly contact other agencies, through appropriate channels, for assistance.

We will review this situation over the next few weeks. If there is a need to set up a more formalized structure, such as a clearinghouse, we'll notify all agencies.