

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 43rd Legislature (1991)

SENATE BILL NO. 238

BY: LONG (Ed)

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE; CREATING THE OKLAHOMA ARBORETUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN; AUTHORIZING SUPERVISION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR THE OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGES; ALLOWING APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR; STIPULATING DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR; AUTHORIZING CERTIFICATION OF CERTAIN RECORDS; REQUIRING ANNUAL REPORT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 2021 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Arboretum and Botanical Garden of Oklahoma, which shall be under the direction and supervision of the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges.

B. The director shall be appointed by the Dean of the Division of Agriculture of Oklahoma State University and approved by the Board of Regents.

C. The Oklahoma Arboretum and Botanical Garden director shall:

1. Acquire, archive, process and disseminate information on horticultural and botanical resources that is or could be of value to policy and decision makers in the state;

2. Act as a representative of the state in horticultural matters as pertains to agriculture, both within and outside the state when necessary or appropriate or when requested to do so by proper authority, which shall include among others the legislative or executive branches of state government;

3. Conduct research, investigations, and interpretive programs pertaining to horticultural and botanical resources, including but not limited to, native woody plant and certain herbaceous plant species distribution within the state, their relationships to each other and certain fauna and their environment as it pertains to agriculture;

4. Maintain plant inventories on or near the OSU campus and the respective associated sites such as the Tulsa Arboretum in natural or contrived ecosystems representing park and urban sites;

5. Establish a depository for preservation of live, native and adaptive plant germplasm and as a distribution source of said germplasm to cooperating affiliated arboretums, involved in plant evaluation, teaching and research programs;

6. Maintain as a part of the statewide Arboretum plant collections representative but not restricted to the flora and plant communities of Oklahoma, which among other benefits will support research and investigative programs; and

7. Contract with private entities or state agencies to assist in training of students and the citizenry with respect to our native and introduced woody and herbaceous plant material and their importance to Oklahoma.

D. The establishment of the Oklahoma Arboretum and Botanical Garden shall in no way preclude or limit the research and educational activities concerning biological and botanical resources

and natural or contrived areas by universities, colleges or other government entities.

E. The director is authorized to certify copies as being authentic reproductions of arboretum resource records held in the state.

F. The director shall present a report each year to the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 1991.

43-1-545

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