

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 43rd Legislature (1991)

SENATE BILL NO. 520

BY: ROZELL

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE; CREATING THE OKLAHOMA
FOREST IMPROVEMENT ACT; PROVIDING SHORT TITLE;
ESTABLISHING THE OKLAHOMA FOREST STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM AND OKLAHOMA FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE;
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 1301-501 of Title 2, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Forest
Improvement Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1301-502 of Title 2, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act "nonindustrial private forest landowner"
means an owner of private forest land who is not directly connected
to wood processing facilities.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1301-503 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Forestry Division of the State Department of Agriculture is authorized to develop and implement the forestry and related provisions of the federal Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1301-504 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Forest Stewardship Program shall provide a broad program of education and technical assistance for nonindustrial private forest landowners in managing their forestlands to achieve the multiple purpose objectives of this act. It is the intent of the Legislature that a multi-disciplinary team be formed to provide informed professional assistance for qualifying landowners through this program. This assistance will be provided to help such landowners understand and evaluate alternative actions they might take, including:

1. Managing and enhancing the productivity of timber, fish and wildlife habitat, air and water quality, wetlands, recreational resources, and the aesthetic value of forest lands;

2. Investing in practices to protect, maintain and enhance the forest resources;

3. Ensuring that afforestation, reforestation, improvement of poorly stocked stands, timber stand improvement, practices necessary to improve seedling growth and survival, and growth enhancement practices where needed to enhance and sustain the long-term productivity of timber and nontimber forest resources; and

4. Protecting their forests from damage caused by fire, insects, disease and extreme weather.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1301-505 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Director of the Forestry Division of the State Department of Agriculture shall establish the Oklahoma Forest Stewardship Committee for the purposes of coordination and administration of the Oklahoma Forest Stewardship Program and Oklahoma Forest Stewardship Incentives Program.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective September 1, 1991.

43-1-571

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