

L***ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 54

By: Hooper of the Senate

and

Maddox (Jim), Kirby and
Rhoads (Karroll) of the
House

An Act relating to waters and water rights;
stating purpose of certain statutes; providing
for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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 105.1A of Title 82, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that the purpose of
Section 105.1 through Section 105.32 of this title is to provide for
stability and certainty in water rights by replacing the
incompatible dual systems of riparian and appropriative water rights
which governed the use of water from definite streams in Oklahoma
prior to June 10, 1963, with an appropriation system of regulation
requiring the beneficial use of water and providing that priority in
time shall give the better right. These sections are intended to
provide that riparian landowners may use water for domestic uses and
store water in definite streams and that appropriations shall not
interfere with such domestic uses, to recognize through
administrative adjudications all uses, riparian and appropriative,
existing prior to June 10, 1963, and to extinguish future claims to
use water, except for domestic use, based only on ownership of
riparian lands.

SECTION 2. 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 Senate the 21st day of May, 1993.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of May, 1993.

Speaker of the House of

Representatives