

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. 1009

By: Johnson (Glen) and Leist

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution memorializing Congress to take all necessary actions to stay certain federal rules relating to certain agricultural production and processing facilities; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, agriculture is a critical component of Oklahoma's economy; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is Oklahoma's major employer with persons involved in production agriculture, input sales, transportation and marketing; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma's feedlot industry is this state's number one consumer of feedgrains; and

WHEREAS, twenty-two announcements for the construction or major expansion of food processing facilities in Oklahoma confirms that Oklahoma's primary growth in jobs, capital investments, and revenues for the past three years has been in agriculture and the processing of agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, this current positive growth trend may be jeopardized because of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit filed by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register on February 8, 1993; and

WHEREAS, the published National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requires Environmental Impact Assessments be conducted

by the Environmental Protection Agency prior to the permitting of facilities; and

WHEREAS, the amount of time required to obtain such an assessment and its approval is very lengthy; and

WHEREAS, because of the federal permit requirements, an estimated twenty-five percent of livestock markets could cease to operate in Oklahoma, affecting the producer's ability to market livestock; and

WHEREAS, in addition, due to the federal permit requirements, Oklahoma feedlots will be needlessly restricted from further growth and in certain areas of the state will be specifically restricted from any activity; and

WHEREAS, major companies and project leaders wishing to conduct business in Oklahoma have indicated that certain operations may need to be shifted to other states; and

WHEREAS, the federal government by and through the Environmental Protection Agency is making Oklahoma less competitive by imposing stricter requirements on Region VI of which Oklahoma is a member; and

WHEREAS, the state has a compelling interest in providing a healthy climate for economic growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation is hereby memorialized to take all necessary actions to stay the effective date of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 122, as published in the Federal Register on February 8, 1993, for the purpose of pursuing a permit which is fair and equitable to all fifty states.

THAT copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

