

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1610

By: Maddux

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to agriculture; amending 2 O.S. 1991, Section 1029, which relates to the Oklahoma Wheat Resources Act; clarifying language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 1991, Section 1029, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1029. It is hereby declared to be the public policy of ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state to protect and foster the health, prosperity, and general welfare of its people by protecting and stabilizing the wheat industry and the economy of the areas producing wheat. ~~In connection therewith and in furtherance thereof~~ Pursuant and subject to the Oklahoma Wheat Resources Act, the Commission shall have the power to:

1. Establish an office in Oklahoma City in the Capitol or a capitol office building;
2. Formulate the general policies and programs of the State of Oklahoma respecting the discovery, promotion, and development of markets and industries for the utilization of wheat, such policies and programs to be closely coordinated with the State Board of Agriculture;

3. Adopt and devise a program of education and publicity;

4. Cooperate with local, state, national or other organizations, whether public or private, or voluntary or created by state or national law, engaged in work or activities involving the expenditure of monies promoting the use of chemicals beneficial to farming operations, contacting regulatory agencies affecting grain grading, facilitating the marketing of grain and publishing information on marketing and production problems of wheat farming; and to enter into such contracts and agreements with such organizations or agencies or carrying on a joint campaign of research, promotion and education. Provided, however, no Commission funds shall be used, directly or indirectly, or as a result of contract or agreement with other persons, or organizations, in supporting or opposing political candidates or political officeholders, and direct lobbying, either state or national, except that the Commission may recommend amendments to this act. Provided, that nothing herein shall restrict the powers of the Commission as set forth in this section;

5. Adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to promptly and effectively administer the provisions of this act;

6. Conduct, in addition to the things enumerated, any other program for the utilization, research and market development of wheat grown in the State of Oklahoma;

7. Call and conduct such meetings and elections as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this act;

8. Hire or retain legal counsel to represent wheat producers in matters pertaining to transportation problems and other matters which could result in potential substantial loss to wheat producers; and

9. To expend Commission funds for the purchase of awards and plaques used in promotional projects, baking contests and

recognition of individuals who have made substantial contributions to the wheat industry.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1995.

45-1-6354

KSM