

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2472

By: Frame, Erwin and Glover of  
the House

and

Long of the Senate

( electric utilities - amending 17 O.S., Section  
190.5 - study of the impact of electric  
restructuring on tax revenues - effective date -  
emergency )

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 162, O.S.L.  
1997, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 391, O.S.L. 1998 (17 O.S.  
Supp. 1999, Section 190.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 190.5 To ensure full evaluation and consideration of  
the impact of restructuring of the electric utility industry on  
municipal and state tax revenues the Legislature hereby directs the  
Joint Electric Utility Task Force to study and fully assess the  
impact of restructuring on state tax revenues and all other facets  
of the current utility tax structure both on the state and all other  
political subdivisions of the state. The task force shall direct  
the Oklahoma Tax Commission to assist the task force in completion  
of this study. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is hereby authorized to  
retain such consultants and experts as may be necessary to complete  
this study. The study shall include the feasibility of establishing  
a uniform consumption tax or other method of taxation which may be  
applied in a restructured industry and shall also assess means of  
ensuring that tax revenues derived by municipalities will not be  
adversely impacted as a result of restructuring. A final report  
shall be completed by the task force no later than October 1, 1999.

During the transition period prior to full consumer choice, the Oklahoma Tax Commission is expressly prohibited from promulgating any rule or issuing any order relating to methods of taxation to be applied to a restructured electric industry without prior express authorization by the Oklahoma State Legislature or the Joint Electric Utility Task Force.

Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in this act, a uniform tax policy which allows all competitors to be taxed on a fair and equal basis shall be established on or before July 1, 2002. The uniform tax policy shall be implemented in a neutral, fair manner without imposing an undue burden on any particular class of customer. The uniform tax policy shall not change in any material respect the tax burden borne by any particular class of customer that is currently borne on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. 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 House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2000.

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Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

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President of the Senate