

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1066____

By: Erwin and Mass of the House

and

Rabon of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution directing the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to conduct meetings with Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations and local representatives; providing guidelines; requiring development and submission of a Kiamichi River Basin Water Resources Development Plan; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the water resources of the Kiamichi River in southeastern Oklahoma are critical to the economic development of the Kiamichi River Basin and must be protected; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide protection of such water resources while at the same time providing opportunities to address local water needs, water needs of Oklahomans and to resolve the Sardis Reservoir water supply storage situation, a comprehensive plan based upon cornerstone principles must be developed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations have expressed interest in formulating such a comprehensive plan so that the issues relating to water resources development in the Kiamichi River Basin and southeastern Oklahoma can be thoroughly examined.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

SECTION 1. A. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall conduct meetings with designated

representatives of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations and local citizens and entities to formulate a comprehensive Kiamichi River Basin Water Development Plan to address water resources issues in the Kiamichi River Basin in accordance with the following cornerstone principles:

1. The lake level management plan, developed by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, shall be implemented for use of water from Sardis Reservoir;

2. Future use of water by local citizens and entities shall be protected by setting aside a sufficient amount of water from Sardis Reservoir for users within the Kiamichi River Basin Region;

3. Financing opportunities for water and wastewater infrastructure with the Kiamichi River Basin area shall be optimized;

4. The obligation of the state to the United States for repayment of construction costs of the water supply at Sardis Reservoir shall be addressed;

5. The present and future needs for water by Oklahomans from the Kiamichi River Basin shall be considered the highest priority; and

6. The integrity of the Kiamichi River shall be protected.

B. In developing the comprehensive plan specified by this resolution, input from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, from citizens from the Kiamichi River Basin area, and from other Oklahoma citizens and entities shall be solicited.

C. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall submit the Kiamichi River Basin Water Resources Development Plan to the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate by February 1, 2000.

SECTION 2. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and officials of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

47-1-7355

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