ENGROSSED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 67

By: Dunlap of the Senate

and

Taylor and Wilt of the House

A Concurrent Resolution requesting state and federal agencies to provide emergency drought assistance to certain Oklahoma communities; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the cities of Bartlesville and Dewey, Oklahoma, in addition to six rural water districts have been forced to institute severe emergency water rationing in an effort to mitigate the effects of an unprecedented drought; and

WHEREAS, the water rights currently held by the city of Bartlesville in the amount of one million gallons per day at a cost of One Hundred Ninety-five Dollars ($195.00) per acre foot is insufficient to meet the needs of these communities due to the current unprecedented drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, this emergency could be mitigated by a proposed transfer of an additional one million nine hundred thousand gallons per day from Copan Lake and an additional seven million one hundred thousand gallons per day transferred from water quality storage to water supply storage which needs to be priced at the lowest amount possible per acre foot on a short term basis and which the City of Bartlesville is respectfully requesting to purchase at the lowest possible cost per acre foot during this emergency water crisis; and;

WHEREAS, these emergency water transfer plans are underway and negotiations are taking place with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over the cost of providing water for these drought-stricken areas; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of those Oklahoma citizens in need the Oklahoma Legislature hereby calls upon every available resource of the State of Oklahoma, its political subdivisions and the federal government to help alleviate this crisis in these communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 48TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT all agencies of the state, including the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, the Department of Civil Emergency Management, and the Department of Environmental Quality, are hereby requested to make every resource available to the affected communities and assist our citizens in every way possible; and

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature further urges our congressional delegation to request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers come to the aid of Oklahoma citizens by providing assistance during this emergency situation.

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

Adopted by the Senate the 18th day of April, 2002.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2002.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives