

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 194

By: Easley

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to oil and gas; amending Section 3, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1996 and Section 5, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 76, O.S.L. 1995 (52 O.S. Supp.2000, Sections 288.3 and 288.5), which relate to the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board; modifying purpose of Board; modifying powers, duties and responsibilities of Board; clarifying statutory reference; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 352, O.S.L. 1996 (52 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 288.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 288.3 There is hereby created until July 1, 2001, the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board which shall be subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law. The purpose of the Board is to coordinate a program designed to demonstrate to the general public the importance of the Oklahoma oil and natural gas exploration and production industry, to encourage the wise and efficient use of energy, to promote environmentally sound production methods and technologies, to develop existing supplies of Oklahoma's oil and natural gas resources, to support research and educational activities concerning the oil and natural gas exploration and production industry ~~and~~, to cause remediation of historical oilfield environmental problems, and to promote awareness of and assistance to state, federal or private programs designed to aid the citizens

of this state who are adversely affected by critically high oil and natural gas prices.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 257, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 76, O.S.L. 1995 (52 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 288.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 288.5 The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

1. To administer and enforce the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act;
2. To establish an office for the Board within the State of Oklahoma;
3. To elect a chairperson and whatever other officers may be necessary to direct operations of the Board;
4. To employ personnel as shall be deemed necessary to carry out the purpose and provisions of this act including but not limited to an attorney to provide legal assistance to the Board, and to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;
5. To establish and administer the Energy Resources Revolving Fund;
6. To approve or disapprove the budget of the Board;
7. To promulgate rules as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this act;
8. To enter into contracts or agreements for studies, research projects, experimental work, supplies or other services to carry out the purposes of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act, and incur those expenses necessary to carry out said purpose. Any such contract or agreement shall provide that:
 - a. the person entering the contract or agreement on behalf of the Board shall develop and submit to the Board a plan or project together with a budget or budgets that shows estimated costs to be incurred for the plan or project, and

- b. the person entering the contract or agreement shall keep accurate records of all of its transactions, account for funds received and expended, and make periodic reports to the Board of activities conducted, and such other reports as the Board may require;

9. To keep accurate records of all financial transactions performed pursuant to this act. These records shall be audited annually by an independent auditor and an annual report shall be compiled and presented to the Governor;

10. To cooperate with any private, local, state or national commission, organization, agency or group and to make contracts and agreements for joint programs beneficial to the oil industry;

11. To provide assistance to any public or private entity whose mission it is to provide financial assistance to citizens of this state, including the elderly, disabled or low-income families, who are adversely affected by high oil or natural gas prices which result in dramatically increased utility bills;

12. To accept donations, grants, contributions and gifts from any public or private source and deposit such in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund;

~~12.~~ 13. To approve or disapprove the investment of any monies in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund pursuant to Section ~~288.10~~ 288.11 of this title; and

~~13.~~ 14. To keep an accurate record of all assessments collected.

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.