ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 368

By: Robinson of the Senate

and

Miller (Ray) of the House

An Act relating to barge traffic safety; creating the Oklahoma Barge Traffic Safety Advisory Task Force; stating purpose and duties; providing for membership and appointments; providing for meetings, quorum, staffing and travel reimbursement; requiring compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Administrative Procedures Act; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Barge Traffic Safety Advisory Task Force until September 1, 2004. The task force shall act in an advisory capacity to assist the Director of the Department of Transportation in addressing safety issues related to barge operations. The task force shall further advise the Department on the implementation of rules, policies and procedures promulgated by the Transportation Commission.

B. The task force shall consist of thirteen (13) members, to be appointed as follows:

1. All seven members of the Oklahoma Waterways Advisory Board shall be appointed by the Governor;

2. The Director of the Department of Transportation or designee shall be appointed by the Governor;

3. One member shall be appointed by the Governor;

4. Two members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

5. Two members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The task force shall elect a chair and vice-chair from among its members. A majority of the task force shall constitute a quorum.

The task force shall meet quarterly. The Director of the Department of Transportation shall convene the first meeting of the task force on or before September 1, 2003. All other meetings shall be at such times and places the task force deems necessary to perform its purpose.

C. The Department of Transportation shall provide staff support to the task force.

D. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for serving on the task force, but shall receive travel reimbursement in the following manner:

1. Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

2. Nonlegislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed by their respective appointing authorities for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act, except that the Director of the Department of Transportation or the designee and the members of the Oklahoma Waterways Advisory Board shall be reimbursed by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

E. Proceedings of all meetings of the task force shall comply with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. All proceeding of the task force shall be subject to the Administrative Procedures Act.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2003.

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 Senate the 13th day of May, 2003.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2003.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives