

3 Senate Bill No. 342

4 As Amended

5 SENATE BILL NO. 342 - By: MADDOX, CAPPS, PRICE, STIPE, HARRISON and  
6 SMITH of the Senate and COVEY, DEUTSCHENDORF and MILLER (Doug) of  
7 the House.

8 [ renewable energy - legislative intent - continuation of  
9 funding - Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative - emergency ]

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

11 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 190.30 of Title 17, unless there  
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 A. It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature to provide  
15 funding for the continuation of the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative  
16 (OWPI) to further the investigation and promotion of wind energy  
17 resources in this state. The OWPI, located in the Environmental  
18 Verification and Analysis Center of the University of Oklahoma, and  
19 working with other higher education system programs including  
20 Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma Mesonet program, has made  
21 great progress in studying the wind energy resources of this state.  
22 With such knowledge Oklahoma has a great advantage in attracting  
23 wind power investors which may ultimately result in multi-billion  
24 dollar industry for our state.

25 B. With continued funding the OWPI shall:

- 1           1. Utilize its resource assessment and information sharing  
2 abilities to provide information to Oklahoma companies, in addition  
3 to out-of-state wind farm developers, that seek to diversify their  
4 energy portfolios;
- 5           2. Continue to support and improve software tools that will  
6 facilitate studies of specific areas for the potential investors,  
7 general public and public officials;
- 8           3. Continue economic studies and policy/incentive studies which  
9 will further investigate how local, state and national policies may  
10 be promoted and utilized to provide the best economic impact for  
11 rural landowners and communities;
- 12           4. Continue outreach efforts to enhance public and private  
13 sector understanding of wind power through more wind power  
14 conferences, rural community meetings, K-12 and college education  
15 initiatives, Technology Center initiatives, and information for  
16 utilities and rural electric cooperatives;
- 17           5. Promote research activities at universities to help attract  
18 the wind industry to this state;
- 19           6. Leverage state funding to seek federal funding for wind  
20 power and other renewable energy research and project development;  
21 and
- 22           7. Offer assistance to Oklahoma economic development groups in  
23 attracting new renewable energy related industry to our state.

1           SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-19-03 - DO  
6 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.