

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE BILL HB1644:

DeWitt

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to agriculture; creating the Joint Legislative Committee on the Future of Agriculture in Oklahoma; providing for membership; designating chair and vice-chair; authorizing meetings; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for staff assistance; requiring comprehensive study of agriculture; requiring report; providing for termination date; providing for codification; 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 to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-90 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Joint Legislative Committee on the Future of Agriculture in Oklahoma.

B. The Committee shall consist of the membership of the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture and Rural Development Committee.

C. The Chair of the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee shall serve as chair of the Committee and the Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee shall serve as vice-chair of the Committee.

D. The Committee shall meet at such times and places as it deems necessary to perform its duties as specified in this section.

E. Members of the Committee shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

F. Staff assistance for the Committee shall be provided by the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall provide staff assistance as requested by the Committee.

G. The Committee shall conduct a comprehensive study of agriculture. The study shall include:

1. Determination of the condition of agriculture in Oklahoma;
2. Review of the state's current programs in support of agriculture;
3. Determination of the role of the state in preserving the agriculture industry; and
4. Review of other matters as may be pertinent to the future of agriculture in Oklahoma.

H. The Committee shall issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by December 1, 2004. The Committee shall be terminated as of December 31, 2004.

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.

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