

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION HR1024

By: Ellis, Lerblance and Erwin

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution expressing the intent of the Oklahoma House of Representatives that no public monies be spent on a water study that is controlled by a private entity; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, it is a duty of the Oklahoma House of Representatives to ensure that all public monies are expended in the most efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, The Nature Conservancy, a private entity, is proposing a water study that would involve the use of state funds; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Post has recently concluded a two-year investigation that uncovered nationwide scandals with The Nature Conservancy, notably suppressing science and allowing habitat destruction; and

WHEREAS, the study being proposed at this time involves limited studies of the Kiamichi, Glover, Mountain Fork, and Little River Basins; and

WHEREAS, the residents within these basins overwhelmingly desire a study that is comprehensive in nature including economic, environmental, wildlife, aquatic and human needs; and

WHEREAS, residents of these river basins also want such a study to be conducted by a public entity in order to ensure compliance with public accountability laws such as the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT it is the intent of the Oklahoma House of Representatives
that any funds, state or federal, available from any state agency to
be used for studies affecting these river basins not be given to,
matched by, or be placed under the control or governance of The
Nature Conservancy.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor,
the Secretary of Environment, the members of the Oklahoma Wildlife
Conservation Commission, the Director of the Oklahoma Department of
Wildlife Conservation, and the Executive Director of the Oklahoma
Water Resources Board.

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