

CS for SB 1293

THE STATE SENATE
Monday, February 13, 2006

Committee Substitute for
Senate Bill No. 1293

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1293 - By: CRUTCHFIELD of the Senate and DeWITT of the House.

An Act relating to professions and occupations; amending 59 O.S. 2001, Section 1104, which relates to powers of the Environmental Quality Board; authorizing the Board to adopt rules relating to licensed public water supply or wastewater operators; authorizing certain public entities to hire or contract for the services of certain operators; authorizing operators to serve certain small systems; authorizing the Board to adopt certain rules; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2001, Section 1104, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1104. The Environmental Quality Board shall have the power and duty to ~~promulgate~~ adopt such rules, including requirements, restrictions and conditions relating to the hiring or contracting of licensed public water supply or wastewater operators pursuant to the provisions of Section 2 of this act and the establishment of a fee schedule pursuant to Section 24 of this act 2-3-402 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, as it may deem necessary to the carrying out of the provisions and purposes of the Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operator Certification Act.

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1118 of Title 59, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. A municipality, sewer improvement district, water or sewer
5 public trust, or rural water or sewer district may hire or contract
6 for the services of one or more operators, properly licensed and
7 certified by the Department of Environmental Quality, to operate the
8 entity's publicly owned public water supply or wastewater systems.
9 The entity may contract with a small publicly owned water supply
10 system or small publicly owned wastewater system to provide the
11 services of the entity's certified operator or operators to assist
12 in the operation of the small system.

13 B. A consortium of small publicly owned water supply systems or
14 small publicly owned wastewater systems may hire or contract for the
15 services of one or more operators, properly licensed and certified
16 by the Department, to provide certified operator services for those
17 small publicly owned public water supply or wastewater systems.

18 C. A substate planning district may hire or contract for the
19 services of one or more operators, properly licensed and certified
20 by the Department, to provide certified operator services for small
21 publicly owned public water supply or wastewater systems within the
22 substate planning district.

1 D. The Oklahoma Rural Water Association may hire or contract
2 for the services of one or more operators, properly licensed and
3 certified by the Department, to provide certified operator services
4 for small publicly owned public water supply or waste water systems.

5 E. The Environmental Quality Board shall adopt rules defining a
6 small system for purposes of this section, and establishing such
7 requirements, restrictions and conditions relating to the hiring and
8 contracting of operators as it deems necessary to ensure proper
9 operation of publicly owned public water supply or wastewater
10 systems.

11 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.

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

16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT, dated 2-9-06
17 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.