

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2637

By: Covey

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to renewable energy; creating the Renewable Energy Education and Resources Act; directing the State Department of Education to make certain renewable energy materials and resources available to public schools; requiring information to be available on the Department web site; directing the Department to assist the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative to develop a clearinghouse of information; listing contents of clearinghouse; stating legislative intent for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to undertake certain study; directing the Regents to grant certain authority upon certain findings; requiring the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to create and implement a renewable energy public education program; specifying elements of the program; requiring certain agencies to coordinate and assist the Department; directing the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to create and maintain a statewide renewable energy resource mapping project; making project a part of the Oklahoma State Data Center; stating contents and purpose of the project; providing for codification; 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:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Renewable Energy Education and Resources Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.11 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The State Department of Education shall make program material and resources concerning renewable energy, provided by the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative, available to the public schools of

this state. The material and resources shall be available on the State Department of Education web site.

B. The Department shall assist the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative in the development of a clearinghouse for renewable energy educational materials and information to be distributed as provided for in subsection A of this section. The renewable energy clearinghouse shall include lesson plans, project material and packets, an informational web site, and workshops to provide teachers with the tools to incorporate renewable energy information into the curriculum.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3245 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education study and determine the feasibility of establishing a renewable energy degree program or renewable energy certification program at one or more institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. If the Regents determine that a renewable energy degree or certification program is feasible it shall grant one or more institutions the authority to establish the program of study.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5017.1a of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall create and implement a renewable energy public education program. The program shall include:

1. An annual event to be held in conjunction with national Earth Day to celebrate renewable energy in Oklahoma; and

2. A public education campaign to disseminate information about renewable energy resources and projects to the general public by means of television, radio, print media, web sites, and tours.

B. The following agencies shall coordinate with and provide technical assistance to the Department of Commerce on the development and implementation of the renewable energy public education program:

1. Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department;
2. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
3. The State Department of Education;
4. Oklahoma Energy Resources Board; and
5. The Department of Environmental Quality.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5018.1 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce, in collaboration with the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative, shall create, maintain, and house as a part of the Oklahoma State Data Center a statewide renewable energy resource mapping project. The project shall include geographic information, data and maps created with geographic information systems that are accessible to the public and serve as a tool to promote and assist in the development of the renewable energy industry in the state.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.

SECTION 7. 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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