

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1455

6 By: Johnson (Rob)

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to waters and water rights; amending
9 82 O.S. 2001, Section 1085.1, as amended by Section
10 24, Chapter 375, O.S.L. 2002 (82 O.S. Supp. 2006,
11 Section 1085.1), which relates to the Oklahoma Water
12 Resources Board; modifying qualifications of members
13 of the Board; and providing an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2001, Section 1085.1, as
16 amended by Section 24, Chapter 375, O.S.L. 2002 (82 O.S. Supp. 2006,
17 Section 1085.1), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1085.1 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Water
19 Resources Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, consisting of
20 nine (9) members to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the
21 advice and consent of the Senate. The Board shall constitute a body
22 corporate and politic and an instrumentality, agency and department
23 of the State of Oklahoma, and exercise by the Board of the powers
24 conferred by this act shall be deemed and shall be held to be an

1 essential governmental function of the State of Oklahoma. One
2 member shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year; one member
3 shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; one member shall be
4 appointed for a term of three (3) years; one member shall be
5 appointed for a term of four (4) years; one member shall be
6 appointed for a term of five (5) years; two members shall be
7 appointed for a term of six (6) years; and two members shall be
8 appointed for a term of seven (7) years. Upon the expiration of
9 said terms, their successors shall be appointed for terms of seven
10 (7) years. One member shall be appointed from each of the
11 congressional districts of this state and the remaining members
12 shall be appointed at large. However, when congressional districts
13 are redrawn then each member appointed prior to July 1 of the year
14 in which such modification becomes effective shall complete the
15 current term of office and appointments made after July 1 of the
16 year in which such modification becomes effective shall be based on
17 the redrawn districts. Appointments made after July 1 of the year
18 in which such modification becomes effective shall be from any
19 redrawn districts which are not represented by a board member until
20 such time as each of the modified congressional districts are
21 represented by a board member. Each member shall be a qualified
22 elector of this state. At all times the membership of the Board
23 shall have represented on it at least one member well versed in each
24 of the following major types of water use: recreational,

1 industrial, irrigational, municipal, rural residential,
2 agricultural, independent oil and gas exploration and production
3 interests, and soil conservation work. Not more than two members
4 may be selected representing any one of the major types of water
5 use. The Board shall meet at least once each month. The members of
6 the Board may be removed only for cause. Whenever a vacancy shall
7 occur, the Governor shall appoint a qualified person to fill the
8 unexpired term of the vacant office. Each member of the Board upon
9 entering upon his duties shall take and subscribe to the
10 constitutional and statutory oath of office and file the same with
11 the Secretary of State.

12 B. The Board shall organize annually by electing a chairman,
13 vice-chairman, and secretary from the membership of the Board, who
14 shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the Board.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2007.

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