

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1527

6 By: Hyman

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to agriculture; establishing duties  
9 for the Oklahoma Agritourism Program; authorizing  
10 expenditures; establishing the Agritourism Revolving  
11 Fund; providing for expenditures; providing for  
12 codification; and providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-12 of Title 2, unless there is  
16 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry  
18 shall operate an "Oklahoma Agritourism Program" for the purpose of  
19 stimulating economic growth and viability in rural communities by  
20 promoting and fostering agritourism ventures within Oklahoma.

21 B. The Oklahoma Agritourism Program of the Oklahoma Department  
22 of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall:

23 1. Foster conferences, institutes, and exhibits on agritourism  
24 opportunities;

1        2. Publish reports, surveys, news bulletins, or other materials  
2 pertaining to its findings, recommendations, and work;

3        3. Utilize existing Department resources and related programs;

4        4. Cooperate with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation  
5 Department, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Oklahoma  
6 State University Cooperative Extension Service as needed in  
7 development and operation of the Program; and

8        5. Facilitate an independent agritourism organization.

9        C. The Department may apply for, accept, and use any gift,  
10 grant, or bequest from any source for the purpose of discharging its  
11 duties.

12        SECTION 2.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-13 of Title 2, unless there is  
14 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15        A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be  
16 known as the "Agritourism Revolving Fund". All monies, fees, and  
17 revenues collected, authorized, or received from any source by the  
18 State Board of Agriculture or any division, officer, or employee of  
19 the State Department of Agriculture pursuant to the provisions of  
20 Section 1 of this act or any law or agreement shall be deposited in  
21 the fund.

22        B. The fund shall be a continuing fund and shall be expended  
23 only for purposes specifically authorized and approved by a majority  
24 vote of the five (5) members appointed to and constituting the

1 Board. The President, in the absence of the Board, may approve  
2 disbursements for lawfully authorized purposes.

3 C. The Board shall have authority to employ and pay out of the  
4 fund personnel as needed or required to conduct authorized services.

5 D. All claims against the fund shall be paid only upon the  
6 majority approval of the Board, or the President in the absence of  
7 the Board.

8 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2007.

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