

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 2702

By: Steele

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to water and water resources;  
8 creating the Oklahoma Water Conservation Grant  
9 Program Act; directing the Oklahoma Water Resources  
10 Board to solicit and make water conservation project  
11 grants; stating goals and objectives of the grant  
12 program; defining certain term; specifying types and  
13 amounts of grants; requiring projects to be models;  
14 giving certain examples; directing the Board to  
15 develop grant criteria and application process;  
16 directing the Board to adopt rules; providing for  
17 codification; providing an effective date; and  
18 declaring an emergency.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1088.1 of Title 82, unless there  
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Water  
24 Conservation Grant Program Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1088.2 of Title 82, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1       A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall solicit proposals  
2 for and make grants for the establishment of pilot programs which  
3 will implement water conservation projects or plans in communities  
4 in the state.

5       B. The goals and objectives of the grant program are to:

6       1. Increase the awareness of the public through education  
7 programs or public information campaigns regarding the value of our  
8 water resources and how water can be used more efficiently;

9       2. Provide assistance to communities or entities initiating  
10 water conservation plans, programs, and activities, and to research  
11 and document the potential for improving water use efficiency  
12 through demonstration projects and other activities; and

13       3. Assist in the development of policies which will encourage  
14 the implementation of water conservation measures.

15       C. For purposes of this section, communities may include entire  
16 cities or towns, combined cities or towns, parts of cities or towns,  
17 or schools, groups or entities located within a community.

18       D. Contingent upon the availability of funding, the Board shall  
19 award the following types of grants:

20       1. Community assistance grants in the amount of Two Hundred  
21 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00); and

22       2. Education and information grants in the amount of Ten  
23 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

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1 E. The projects shall be innovative programs that will serve as  
2 models for other communities in the state. Projects may include,  
3 but are not limited to, community conservation demonstration  
4 projects, water use accounting programs, retrofit projects, school  
5 education projects, xeriscape demonstration gardens, and information  
6 campaigns on capturing and using harvested rainwater and gray water.

7 F. The Board shall determine pilot project criteria and  
8 establish a process for the consideration of proposals. The  
9 proposals for pilot projects shall be considered on a statewide  
10 competitive basis. The Board shall promulgate rules for the  
11 operation of the projects.

12 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

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

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