

BILL SUMMARY

MEASURE: HB 2729 (Proposed Committee Substitute)

AUTHOR: Armes

SUBJECT: Agriculture

PROVISIONS:

Section 1: New law that allows the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture to take into possession certain farm equipment, vehicles, livestock, etc. that are possessed in violation of the state's Agriculture Code. This equipment shall be released by the Department if it turns out that the owner of the seized equipment had no knowledge the equipment was being used for the purposes charged. Subsections C through R outline the forfeiture procedures.

Section 2: Creates the "Agriculture Evidence and Law Enforcement Fund." The fund will consist of monies: "received from the sale of confiscated property, the seizure and forfeiture of confiscated monies, property, gifts, bequests, devises, or contributions, public or private, including federal and state funds unless otherwise provided by federal law or regulation."

Once the balance of the fund reaches \$100,000, any excess money shall be deposited in the Agriculture Revolving Fund.

Section 3: Amends existing law to add agriculture law enforcement agents to those people who may enforce violations of livestock brands.

Section 4: A person not entitled to the possession of a vehicle or implement of husbandry who receives, possesses, conceals, sells or disposes of it, knowing the vehicle or implement of husbandry to be stolen or converted under circumstances constituting a crime, shall be guilty of a felony

EFFECTIVE

DATE: November 1, 2008

PREPARED BY: Giancola/Dameron

DATE: February 27, 2008