

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT  
TO  
2 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1956 By: Justice of the Senate  
3 and  
4 Armes of the House  
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7 An Act relating to agriculture; amending 2 O.S. 2001,  
8 Section 2-30, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 216, O.S.L. 2004 (2 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 2-30),  
10 which relates to the Agriculture Mediation Program;  
11 \* \* \* repealing 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3430, which  
12 relates to the Institute for Issue Management and  
13 Alternative Dispute Resolution; and declaring an  
14 emergency.

13 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the title, enacting clause and entire bill  
14 and insert

15 "An Act relating to agriculture; amending 2 O.S.  
16 2001, Section 2-30, as last amended by Section 1,  
17 Chapter 216, O.S.L. 2004 (2 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section  
18 2-30), which relates to the Agriculture Mediation  
19 Program; clarifying administrators of program;  
20 authorizing mediation services for certain entities;  
21 declaring program to be independent entity;  
22 providing for funding for certain mediation  
23 services; authorizing contributions to support  
24 certain mediation services; creating the Agriculture  
Mediation Board; designating appointing authority  
for membership of the Board; providing for  
membership; authorizing the adoption of certain  
procedures; requiring roster of certain persons;  
declaring certain aspects to be confidential;  
repealing 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3430, which relates  
to the Institute for Issue Management and  
Alternative Dispute Resolution; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2001, Section 2-30, as last  
3 amended by Section 1, Chapter 216, O.S.L. 2004 (2 O.S. Supp. 2009,  
4 Section 2-30), is amended to read as follows:

5 Section 2-30. A. The Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation Program  
6 under the direction of the ~~Institute for Issue Management and~~  
7 ~~Alternative Dispute Resolution established as provided for in~~  
8 ~~Section 3430 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ Agriculture  
9 Mediation Board as established by subsection D of this section, is  
10 authorized to provide mediation services ~~for all types of~~  
11 ~~agricultural and rural living issues~~ to all individuals, businesses,  
12 and state and federal agencies that are engaged in production  
13 agriculture, and agriculturally or environmentally-related  
14 activities. The Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation Program shall  
15 operate in accord with the Agriculture Credit Act of 1987, as  
16 amended, 7 CFR 785, and applicable state and federal laws.

17 B. The Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation Program shall be formed  
18 as an independent entity. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture,  
19 Food, and Forestry shall provide office space for the Oklahoma  
20 Agriculture Mediation Program. The State Oklahoma Department of  
21 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, in cooperation with ~~the Institute~~  
22 ~~for Issue Management and Alternative Dispute Resolution and~~  
23 appropriate entities such as the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension  
24 Service, is authorized ~~and directed~~ to develop and implement a plan

1 to increase public awareness of the Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation  
2 Program. The plan shall be designed to provide information about  
3 the program to producers ~~of agricultural products~~, agriculture  
4 lenders, and others which ~~might benefit from the program as well as~~  
5 ~~to agricultural lenders~~ may have reason to utilize the services.

6 The plan ~~shall~~ may include but not be limited to the following:

7 1. Providing informational literature to every county extension  
8 office in the state;

9 2. Providing information about the program to agricultural  
10 lenders in this state by any feasible means, including but not  
11 limited to electronic media;

12 3. Securing such public service announcements from broadcast  
13 media as is feasible;

14 4. Cooperating with and providing information to court  
15 officials; and

16 5. Such other measures as may be calculated to develop a  
17 greater awareness of the existence and benefits of the Oklahoma  
18 Agriculture Mediation Program.

19 C. The program is primarily funded by a grant from the United  
20 States Department of Agriculture and may provide mediation free of  
21 charge to the participants. The State Department of Agriculture,  
22 Food, and Forestry, pursuant to the grant recertification provisions  
23 at 7 CFR 785 and this section, may provide contributions or  
24 allocations in support of the Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation

1 Program, as available. The program may seek supporting  
2 contributions from other stakeholders in support of its operations.

3 D. The Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation Program shall establish  
4 and maintain an Agriculture Mediation Board whose members are  
5 engaged in or serving agriculture. The Board shall be comprised of  
6 a five-person Executive Committee and a fifteen-member Advisory  
7 Committee. The five-person Executive Committee shall be comprised  
8 of one designee each from the two largest general farm organizations  
9 of this state, one designee from the largest farm commodity group of  
10 this state, one designee appointed by the Chair of the Senate  
11 Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, and one designee  
12 appointed by the Chair of the House of Representatives Agriculture  
13 and Rural Development Committee. The Advisory Committee shall only  
14 be advisory in capacity and comprised of members drawn from the  
15 following categories and appointed by the Executive Committee:

- 16 1. Each of the United States Department of Agriculture  
17 agencies;
- 18 2. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
- 19 3. The Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension,  
20 including IFMAPS;
- 21 4. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission;
- 22 5. An Oklahoma attorney;
- 23 6. Two Oklahoma farmers or ranchers;
- 24 7. A representative from an agriculture banking institution;

1       8. A representative from the Oklahoma Conference of Churches;

2       9. A mediator from the federal, state or private sector; and

3       10. Such other members from public entities or private

4 organizations as may be needed.

5       E. The Agriculture Mediation Board shall adopt such procedures

6 as may be necessary for the management of the program.

7       F. The program will maintain a roster of qualified mediators to

8 assist in servicing requests for mediation.

9       G. Mediation communications and mediation sessions under this

10 section shall be confidential pursuant to the Administrative Dispute

11 Resolution Act, 5 U.S.C. 574 and this section.

12       SECTION 2.       REPEALER       70 O.S. 2001, Section 3430, is

13 hereby repealed.

14       SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation

15 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

16 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and

17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 19th day of April, 2010.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives

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6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate