

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 3230

By: Jackson of the House

3 and

4 Marlatt of the Senate

5
6
7 An Act relating to statutory references; making
8 statements regarding legislative intent; providing
9 for construction of statutes containing references to
10 the census; providing exceptions for statutes relying
11 for operative effect on certain population count;
12 providing certain statutory provisions not to be
13 considered modified; providing for codification;
14 providing an effective date; and declaring an
15 emergency.

12

13

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

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 51 of Title 25, unless there is
17 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. The Legislature finds that the United States Census Bureau
19 has initiated a number of reform efforts related to the means by
20 which information is compiled, analyzed and reported by the Bureau,
21 including changes in the terminology used by the Bureau to describe
22 the methods by which data is compiled, analyzed and reported. The
23 Legislature finds that numerous statutory provisions make direct or
24 indirect reference to the United States Census or to the United

1 States Census Bureau and to the information which is compiled and
2 reported by the Bureau. The Legislature finds that there is a need
3 to allow for flexible interpretation of statutory provisions based
4 upon changes in terminology used by the United States Census Bureau.
5 Periodic changes in terminology or methodology with respect to
6 demographic and economic data gathered by the federal government
7 should not require frequent amendments to state statutory
8 provisions. The Legislature finds that it is desirable public
9 policy and in the interest of established principles of statutory
10 construction to enact the provisions of this section due to the need
11 for consistent interpretation of statutory provisions which rely for
12 operative effect upon specific information, such as population.

13 B. Unless a statutory provision relies for its operative effect
14 on a population count contained in a Federal Decennial Census or a
15 population count determined by using data from the United States
16 Census Bureau, a reference in the Oklahoma Statutes to the "census",
17 the "Federal Decennial Census" or other similar reference shall
18 include any applicable means or method used by the United States
19 Census Bureau to report demographic or economic information.

20 C. Statutory provisions which contain a reference to a specific
21 population count or population range shall not be considered to have
22 been modified because of a change in terminology by the United
23 States Census Bureau or as a result of the provisions of this
24 section.

