

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Monday, February 16, 2009

Committee Substitute for  
**House Bill No. 1884**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1884 - By: RICHARDSON of the House and JUSTICE of the Senate.

An Act relating to waters and water rights; directing the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to form a study group for certain purposes; specifying purposes; requiring the study group to submit a written report by a certain date; requiring the Board and Commission to map breach inundation areas of dams; making mapping requirement contingent upon funding; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

- 1           SECTION 1.   NEW LAW   A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma  
2 Statutes as Section 110.30 of Title 82, unless there is created a duplication in numbering,  
3 reads as follows:
- 4           A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Oklahoma Conservation  
5 Commission shall establish a study group composed of members selected by the Board  
6 and the Commission for the purpose of:
- 7           1. Reviewing all existing state and federal laws and regulations related to the  
8 classification of high-hazard dams;

1           2. Making recommendations on legislative, regulatory, or other actions that may be  
2 taken to reduce the number of low- or significant-hazard dams that are reclassified to  
3 high-hazard dams prior to the end of the current design life of the dam;

4           3. Formulating a public education plan that will inform the general public as well  
5 as local, state, and federal officials on the safety risks associated with the construction of  
6 residential or business structures downstream of or adjacent to a low- or significant-  
7 hazard dam; and

8           4. Exploring funding options and sources, including but not limited to private, local,  
9 state, and federal sources, which are available for the upkeep and rehabilitation of dams  
10 and levees located in the state and for the mapping of breach inundation areas  
11 downstream of dams as provided for in subsection C of this section.

12           B. The study group created as provided for in subsection A of this section shall file  
13 a written report of its review, recommendations and findings with the Governor, the  
14 Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by  
15 December 25, 2009.

16           C. Contingent upon the availability of funding, the Oklahoma Water Resources  
17 Board and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission shall map the breach inundation  
18 areas downstream of dams located in the state using standards developed by the United  
19 States Department of Agriculture Resource Conservation and Development Program.

20           SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public

1 peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof  
2 this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.  
3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
4 DEVELOPMENT, dated 02-12-09 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.