

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
**House Concurrent
Resolution No. 1044**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1044 - By: BENGE AND DEWITT of the House and COFFEE AND MYERS of the Senate.

A Concurrent Resolution designating February 9, 2010, “Water Appreciation Day” at the State Capitol; encouraging recognition of the value and significance of water resources; and directing distribution.

1 WHEREAS, Oklahoma’s water is a unique and precious resource that binds all
2 Oklahomans to a rich past and promising future; and

3 WHEREAS, Oklahoma has 1,400 square miles of water in lakes and ponds, 320
4 million acre-feet of water stored in its major aquifers, and 167,000 miles of rivers and
5 streams, making it a state abundant in water resources. No natural resource is as vital
6 to the welfare of Oklahoma as clean, accessible water, of which more than 1.5 trillion
7 gallons are used every day throughout the state; and

8 WHEREAS, the proper care and management of water is vital to Oklahoma due to
9 its value to state industry and commerce, aquatic and wildlife species and wildlife, and
10 vibrant tourism industry in Oklahoma; and

11 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan serves as the roadmap for
12 water development and protection for the state and the ongoing update of the Water Plan
13 is unprecedented in its scope and significance and will serve as the primary guidance

1 document for numerous state and federal water agencies and organizations in the
2 management and protection of the water resources of the state; and

3 WHEREAS, last year the Financial Assistance Programs of the Oklahoma Water
4 Resources Board, the principal water and related infrastructure development mechanism
5 for the state, reached and exceeded the two-billion-dollar milestone in approved loans
6 and grants to Oklahoma communities and water systems, and further maximized its
7 infrastructure financing authority by leveraging \$62 Million Dollars in 2009 federal
8 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds to underwrite construction of
9 55 water and wastewater projects, resulting in more than a \$158 Million Dollars in
10 interest rate savings to Oklahoma communities.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA
13 LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

14 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature, recognizing the importance of water
15 interests to the State of Oklahoma, designates February 9, 2010, “Water Appreciation
16 Day” at the Oklahoma State Capitol and urges all Oklahoma citizens to respect the value
17 and significance of the water resources in Oklahoma.

18 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Executive Director of the
19 Oklahoma Water Resources Board for distribution to the organizations participating in
20 “Water Appreciation Day” at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

21 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.