

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 28, 2011

3 As Amended

4 SENATE BILL NO. 603

5 By: Schulz of the Senate

6 and

7 Blackwell of the House

8 An Act relating to endangered species; creating the
9 Endangered Species and Economic Development Task
10 Force; providing expiration date; specifying duties;
11 providing for membership; directing selection of
12 chair and vice-chair; requiring quorum; providing for
13 travel reimbursement; providing for staff support;
14 requiring certain report; providing for
15 noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
18 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

19 A. There is hereby created until December 31, 2011, the
20 Endangered Species and Economic Development Task Force to assist
21 agencies in providing policy and technical assistance regarding
22 compliance with endangered species laws. The task force shall:

23 1. Assess the economic impact on the state of federal, state,
24 or local regulations relating to endangered species;

2. Assist landowners and other persons in this state to
identify, evaluate, and implement cost-efficient strategies for

1 mitigation of impacts to and recovery of endangered species that
2 will promote economic growth and development in this state;

3 3. Facilitate state agencies and local governmental efforts to
4 effectively implement endangered species regulations in a cost
5 efficient manner;

6 4. Make recommendations, if requested by a local government or
7 a state official, addressing endangered species issues; and

8 5. Work in coordination with the United States Fish and
9 Wildlife Service, institutions of higher education, and agriculture
10 and conservation organizations in performing its functions and
11 duties.

12 B. The task force shall be composed of nine (9) members as
13 follows:

14 1. One member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro
15 Tempore of the Senate or designee;

16 2. One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the
17 Speaker of the House of Representatives or designee;

18 3. The Secretary of Commerce and Tourism or designee;

19 4. The Secretary of Environment or designee;

20 5. The Secretary of Agriculture or designee;

21 6. The chair of the Corporation Commission or designee;

22 7. The State Wildlife Conservation Director or designee;

23 8. The Director of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation
24 Districts or designee; and

1 9. The Director of the Department of Transportation or
2 designee.

3 C. The appointed members of the task force shall serve at the
4 pleasure of the appointing authority.

5 D. The chair of the task force shall be the Secretary of
6 Commerce and Tourism and the vice-chair shall be selected from the
7 members of the task force.

8 E. A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute
9 a quorum for the purpose of taking any action.

10 **F.** Staff support of the task force shall be provided by the
11 Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

12 **G.** The task force shall provide reports as needed on:

13 1. Innovative programs to address endangered species issues
14 while promoting economic growth; and

15 2. Legislative recommendations to the President Pro Tempore of
16 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
17 Governor by December 31, 2011.

18 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
19 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & COMMERCE, dated 2-17-11
23 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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