

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 HOUSE BILL 2964

By: Lockhart

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to waters and water rights; directing  
8 the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to create a  
9 coordinated restoration and protection strategy for  
10 impaired watersheds; stating goal of the strategy;  
11 requiring submittal of the strategy by a certain  
12 date; requiring an annual progress report to be  
13 submitted to certain persons; listing specific  
14 information and recommendations to be included in the  
15 update; directing the Governor and Legislature to  
16 take appropriate action under certain conditions;  
17 providing for codification; and providing an  
18 effective date.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1085.30b of Title 82, unless  
22 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall coordinate with the  
24 appropriate state agencies to create a coordinated watershed  
restoration and protection strategy for each impaired watershed area  
in this state. The goal of the strategy shall be to reduce the  
overall pollution load in each watershed to a level that will allow

1 each watershed to be removed from the impaired list in not more than  
2 twenty-five (25) years. The strategy shall be submitted to the  
3 Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of  
4 the House of Representatives and the Secretary of Environment by  
5 January 1, 2014.

6 B. 1. The Board shall coordinate with the appropriate state  
7 agencies to create an annual progress report. The first progress  
8 report shall be filed by January 1, 2014, with updates filed each  
9 year thereafter. The progress report shall be submitted to the  
10 Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of  
11 the House of Representatives and the Secretary of Environment.

12 2. The annual progress report shall include any revisions and  
13 updates to the information provided in the original strategy, in  
14 addition to the following:

- 15 a. identification of all actions taken by each state  
16 agency to reduce pollutant and sediment levels in each  
17 impaired watershed,
- 18 b. identification of the sources of pollutants and  
19 sediment causing impairment or continued degradation  
20 of each impaired watershed,
- 21 c. outline of further steps to be taken by each state  
22 agency to reduce pollutants and sediments from  
23 identified sources in order to accomplish pollutant-  
24 specific load and sediment reduction goals,

1           d.    an analysis of the effectiveness of the pollutant  
2                reduction efforts of each state agency based upon data  
3                collected by the Beneficial Use Monitoring Program,  
4                the Conservation Commission's Small Watershed  
5                Rotational Monitoring Program and other appropriate  
6                monitoring data, and

7           e.    recommendations for further administrative, judicial  
8                or legislative actions necessary to achieve the load  
9                reduction goals assigned to each impaired watershed  
10              and to overcome any identified limitations or  
11              obstacles.

12           C.   If the Legislature or the Governor finds, based on any of  
13                the annual reports required by this section, that any of the state  
14                agencies have failed to appropriately protect water quality  
15                standards in an impaired watershed, the Governor and the Legislature  
16                shall take any and all necessary and appropriate action to require  
17                the agency to meet its mandated responsibilities.

18           SECTION 2.   This act shall become effective November 1, 2012.

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