

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1005

By: McNeil of the House

and

Justice of the Senate

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution designating March 9, 2011,
10 Water Appreciation Day at the State Capitol;
11 encouraging recognition of the value and significance
12 of water resources; and directing distribution.

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14 WHEREAS, Oklahoma's water is a unique and precious resource that
15 binds all Oklahomans to a rich past and promising future; and

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

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

1 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan serves as the
2 roadmap for water development and protection for the state, and the
3 ongoing update of the Water Plan, scheduled to be presented to the
4 Oklahoma Legislature in February 2012, is unprecedented in its scope
5 and significance and will serve as the primary guidance document for
6 numerous state and federal water agencies and organizations in the
7 management and protection of the water resources of the state; and

8 WHEREAS, last year the Financial Assistance Programs of the
9 Oklahoma Water Resources Board, the principal water and wastewater
10 infrastructure financing mechanism for the state, exceeded the two-
11 billion-four-hundred-million-dollar milestone in approved loans and
12 grants to Oklahoma communities and water systems by leveraging over
13 \$150 Million Dollars in 2010 to underwrite construction of 56 water
14 and wastewater projects, resulting in more than \$75 Million Dollars
15 in savings to Oklahoma communities.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
17 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
18 CONCURRING THEREIN:

19 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature, recognizing the importance
20 of water interests to the State of Oklahoma, designates March 9,
21 2011, "Water Appreciation Day" at the Oklahoma State Capitol and
22 urges all Oklahoma citizens to respect the value and significance of
23 the water resources in Oklahoma.

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1 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Executive
2 Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for distribution to
3 the state environmental agencies and organizations participating in
4 "Water Appreciation Day" at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

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