

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1424

By: Brecheen

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to regional water planning; stating
8 public policy; directing the Oklahoma Water Resources
9 Board to create certain Regional Water Planning
10 Areas; stating purpose; requiring certain aquifers to
11 be included in region; providing for appointments;
12 providing for Oklahoma Water Resources Board
13 membership; stating terms; requiring certain
14 quarterly meetings; providing for noncodification;
15 and providing an effective date.

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. 1. It is hereby declared to be the public policy of this
20 state to sustainably develop the state's water resources through the
21 creation of Regional Water Planning Areas (RWPA), whose regional
22 boundaries shall consider factors such as river basin and aquifer
23 delineations, socio-economic characteristics, existing regional
24 water planning areas, public comment, and other factors deemed
relevant by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, provided, all
sensitive sole source groundwater basins or subbasins, and any area

1 relying primarily on water directly from or emanating from a
2 sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, must be located
3 entirely within the same RWPA.

4 2. The boundaries of the RWPA must be reviewed and updated at
5 least once every ten years. Amendments to the boundaries of a RWPA
6 must comply with Article I of the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures
7 Act.

8 3. Each RWPA shall be represented by a resident Board
9 Representative who is a member of the Oklahoma Water Resources
10 Board. Each RWPA Board Representative shall be appointed by the
11 Governor for a four (4) year staggered term and may be eligible for
12 reappointment.

13 B. 1. The purpose of the RWPA shall be to represent the
14 interests of its planning area, based upon public comment and input,
15 and recommend regulatory, administrative, and legislative changes.

16 2. The Board Representative shall hold quarterly public
17 meetings within the RWPA, in compliance with the Oklahoma Open
18 Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act, to gather suggestions
19 and recommendations from the public as to issues that should be
20 addressed in that Area.

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

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