

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 603

By: Schulz

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

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

24 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. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for  
11 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

12           1. Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
13 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
14 duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74  
15 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

16           2. Nonlegislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
17 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
18 duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

19          G. Staff support of the task force shall be provided by the  
20 Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

21          H. The task force shall provide reports as needed on:

22           1. Innovative programs to address endangered species issues  
23 while promoting economic growth; and

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

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

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