

1 **CORRECTED**

2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

3 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

4 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

5 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

6 FOR

7 HOUSE BILL NO. 1923

By: DeWitt, Armes and Newell of
the House

and

Justice of the Senate

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12 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

13 [environment and natural resources - Emergency

14 Drought Relief Fund - creation of the Emergency

15 Drought Commission -

16 emergency]

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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 2250 of Title 27A, unless there
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
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1 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be known
2 as the "Emergency Drought Relief Fund". This fund shall be a
3 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations and shall
4 consist of all monies appropriated to the fund by the Legislature
5 for the purposes of providing funding for emergency drought relief
6 activities once a drought emergency has been declared.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2251 of Title 27A, unless there
9 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 In the event of a formal declaration of emergency drought
11 conditions by the Governor, the Emergency Drought Commission shall
12 be formed consisting of the Executive Director of the Oklahoma
13 Conservation Commission, the Secretary of Agriculture and the
14 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. The
15 Emergency Drought Commission shall determine the expenditures to be
16 made from the Emergency Drought Relief Fund created in Section 1 of
17 this act, subject to approval by the Governor. The Emergency
18 Drought Commission shall also serve as a drought advisory panel to
19 the Governor and the various state agencies. The activities of the
20 Emergency Drought Commission shall continue until it is determined
21 by the Governor that a drought emergency no longer exists in the
22 state. The Emergency Drought Relief Fund may receive additional
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1 funding from the Legislature, as needed, through the appropriations
2 process.

3 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2252 of Title 27A, unless there
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 The fund shall be available for drought response activities
7 within the state that may include but shall not be limited to:

- 8 1. Pond cleanup and construction;
- 9 2. Water conservation methods in production agriculture;
- 10 3. Providing of water for livestock;
- 11 4. Rural fire suppression activities as directed by the
12 Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
- 13 5. Red cedar eradication;
- 14 6. Soil conservation;
- 15 7. Emergency infrastructure conservation and measures; and
- 16 8. Any other drought response activities identified by the
17 Emergency Drought Commission.

18 SECTION 4. There is hereby appropriated to the Emergency
19 Drought Relief Fund from any monies not otherwise appropriated from
20 the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal year
21 ending June 30, 2014, the sum of Ten Million Dollars
22 (\$10,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to provide
23 emergency drought relief under the provisions of this act.

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

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6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
7 02/25/2013 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.