HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 469

By: Marlatt and Sharp of the Senate

and

O'Donnell of the House

[oil and gas - appointment of expert - codification - effective date.]

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 318.11 of Title 52, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. In every civil action alleging property damages resulting from oil, natural gas or other hydrocarbon exploration or injection of any water or chemical solution related to or resulting from such exploration, at the request of a party or on the Court's own motion, the Court may appoint an expert to assist the court, whose evidence and testimony may be considered by the trier of fact in determining the cause of any injury to the plaintiff.

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

B. When selecting an expert pursuant to subsection A of this section, the parties may agree to an expert or the Court may select an expert on a rotating basis from a list of experts provided by the Oklahoma Geological Survey.

C. All reasonable fees, costs and expenses of the expert appointed pursuant to this section shall be apportioned by the Court between the parties in the interest of justice and shall be recovered by the prevailing party to the extent of the apportionment.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, dated 04/01/2015 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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