

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

SENATE BILL 760

By: Schulz

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Water Use Working Group; creating working group; stating purpose; providing for appointments; providing for meetings; requiring appointments by certain date; establishing procedures for meetings; providing for staffing; providing for termination; providing for noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

A. For the purpose of studying and developing a comprehensive plan for the transfer of surface water, within the boundaries of this state, there is hereby created the Oklahoma Water Use Working Group to consist of nine (9) members to be appointed as follows:

1. Three members shall be appointed by the Governor;

2. Three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

3. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

1 B. The appointing authorities shall strive to appoint fair and
2 open-minded members who shall endeavor to consider the current and
3 future water requirements of all the citizens of this state, the
4 various industries operating in this state which depend on water
5 resources and members shall further be without vested personal or
6 financial interest in protecting any particular group or resource.

7 C. Meetings, activities and reports of the working group shall
8 be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meetings and Open Records Acts. All
9 actions of the working group shall be approved by a majority vote of
10 the membership.

11 D. Members shall be appointed no later than July 1, 2015, the
12 Governor shall call the first meeting of the working group. The
13 working group shall elect from among its membership a chair who
14 shall be responsible for calling meetings. Vacancies shall be
15 filled by the original appointing authority and members shall serve
16 at the pleasure of their appointing authority. Members appointed to
17 the working group shall serve without compensation but may be
18 eligible for actual and necessary travel reimbursement by their
19 appointing authority pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

20 E. Staffing requirements of the working group may be provided
21 as needed by the Governor's office, the Oklahoma State Senate, the
22 House of Representatives, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board or any
23 other governmental agency or entity as directed by the working
24 group.

1 F. Any reports or recommendations approved by the working group
2 shall be presented to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the
3 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and be made
4 publicly available.

5 G. Activities of the working group shall terminate no later
6 than December 1, 2016, unless otherwise extended by the Legislature.

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

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