

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

HOUSE BILL 2446

By: O'Donnell

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to waters and water rights; declaring the protection of the beneficial uses of certain bodies of water a compelling state interest; providing for legislative and regulatory authority; listing the beneficial uses; providing for codification; and providing an 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 1E of Title 82, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the protection of the beneficial uses of bodies of water in Oklahoma is hereby declared to be a compelling state interest subject to legislative authority and the regulatory authority granted by the Legislature to any state agency assigned with the responsibility within its respective areas of jurisdiction as defined in Section 1-1-202 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes. For purposes of this section, beneficial uses of bodies of water in Oklahoma shall be:

1. Emergency water supply;

1 2. Public and private water supply;

2 3. Fish and wildlife propagation;

3 4. Agriculture;

4 5. Recreation;

5 6. Navigation; and

6 7. Aesthetics.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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9 55-2-8295 KB 12/30/15