

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1537

By: Dunnington of the House

and

Dossett of the Senate

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to waters and water rights; making
12 legislative findings; imposing requirement on
13 municipalities with respect to inclined block rate
14 structures for water usage; providing for excessive
15 water usage surcharge; authorizing surcharge revenues
16 to be used for municipal water systems; providing for
17 codification; providing for noncodification; and
18 providing an effective date.

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

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

22 The Legislature finds that water is necessary for the residents
23 of the State of Oklahoma to enjoy a high quality of life. The
24 demand for drinking water and water for other household and
 commercial uses is constantly increasing. Water conservation

1 measures are critical for the State of Oklahoma to maintain its
2 access to water and to sustain the lives of its citizens. The
3 Legislature finds that municipalities are an important means for the
4 delivery of water and that the price for water usage by
5 municipalities can have a positive impact on water conservation
6 efforts. To encourage municipalities to implement inclined block
7 rate structures for the delivery of water to persons and business
8 enterprises located within municipal boundaries, the Legislature
9 finds that a system which creates incentives for water conservation
10 is desirable state public policy and is in furtherance of an
11 essential state government function. Water and water quality, while
12 affected by actions of many persons and entities at the local level,
13 are both matters of statewide public concern.

14 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2001 of Title 82, unless there
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. Effective November 1, 2017, each municipality within the
18 state shall implement an inclined block rate structure for use of
19 municipal water by persons, business entities and other users. The
20 municipality may retain all revenues derived from the sale of water
21 to each user.

22 B. Municipalities that implement an inclined block rate
23 structure may impose surcharges for a municipal water user that uses
24 more than twenty-five thousand (25,000) gallons of water per month.

1 Water use surcharge revenues may be used by the municipality or an
2 entity having the municipality as its beneficiary for municipal
3 water systems and related infrastructure assets.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.
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6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
7 02/28/2017 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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