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February 28, 2018

AS AMENDED

SENATE BILL NO. 1241

By: Brecheen of the Senate

and

Russ of the House

[waters and water rights - Oklahoma Water
Sustainability Act - codification - noncodification -
~~effective date -~~ **emergency**

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 1021.1 of Title 82, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Water Sustainability Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1021.2 of Title 82, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Legislature hereby declares that in order to efficiently utilize and orderly develop the water resources available within each geographic region of this state for the benefit of our citizens, the public policy of this state is to promote and support

1 the planning and development of long-term water projects to achieve
2 this policy through the use of programs and incentives that first
3 seek to maximize the efficient use of water resources available
4 within each region. The Legislature finds that prioritizing efforts
5 to more efficiently develop our state's water resources to meet the
6 needs of all areas within the state is consistent with the
7 provisions of Section 105.12 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
8 Provided, however, that nothing in this act shall be construed as
9 amending the provisions of law pertaining to rights or permits to
10 use water.

11 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1021.3 of Title 82, unless there
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall dedicate staff and
15 resources, as available, to assist in the development of water plans
16 and projects in furtherance of this act including, but not limited
17 to:

18 1. Promoting and assisting in the coordination of regional and
19 local water planning efforts;

20 2. Providing assistance in the formation of voluntary water
21 planning efforts;

22 3. Compiling and sharing information and providing available
23 technical resources to assist in such water planning efforts; and
24

1 4. Coordinating potential federal, state, tribal, local and
2 corporation partnership opportunities for financing and incentives
3 to develop plans, technical studies and related projects;

4 B. Contingent upon availability of funding and in addition to
5 the general assistance described above, the Board may provide
6 analysis or guidance regarding options available for development of
7 water plans.

8 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1021.4 of Title 82, unless there
10 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 Water plans and projects should be developed to efficiently
12 maximize the use of water resources within this state, and should
13 include, but not be limited to:

14 1. Voluntary consolidation and regionalization of existing
15 infrastructure and water supplies in order to utilize limited
16 resources most efficiently;

17 2. Maximizing existing reservoirs through activities such as
18 raising dams, reallocating existing storage pools and the dredging
19 of reservoirs;

20 3. Increasing water storage and minimizing transportation and
21 evaporative losses of water used for agricultural purposes;

22 4. Managing or augmenting aquifer recharge rates through
23 activities such as the land application or injection of excess fresh
24 or recycled water; and

1 5. Implementing conservation measures, such as system water
2 loss audits, water reuse projects and system sustainability
3 projects.

4 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
5 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

6 The Oklahoma Water Resources Board is authorized to promulgate
7 rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

8 ~~SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2018.~~

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

13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
14 February 28, 2018 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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