

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 13, 2022

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR ENGROSSED  
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 3636

By: Dempsey and Humphrey of the  
House

and

Bullard of the Senate

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8  
9 [ water and water rights - Oklahoma Water Economic  
10 Impact Study Act - Impact Study Fund - expenditures  
11 of monies - instream flow studies - codification -  
12 effective date -

emergency ]

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

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1702 of Title 82, unless there  
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma  
18 Water Economic Impact Study Act".

19 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving  
20 fund for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to be designated the  
21 "Oklahoma Water Economic Impact Study Fund" for the purpose of  
22 conducting instream flow studies. The revolving fund shall be a  
23 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
24 consist of all monies received by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board

1 from the appropriations, apportionments, donations, federal grants,  
2 and fee revenues designated for the purposes of implementing the  
3 provisions of this act. All monies accruing to the credit of the  
4 fund may be budgeted and expended by the Secretary of Energy and  
5 Environment, in agreement with the Executive Director of the  
6 Oklahoma Water Resources Board. Expenditures from the fund shall be  
7 made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims  
8 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of  
9 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

10 C. 1. The Secretary of Energy and Environment and the  
11 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall  
12 confer for the consideration of conducting a water economic impact  
13 study. Water economic impact studies shall be conducted for the  
14 purpose of educating stakeholders on the value of all uses of the  
15 particular body of water at the subject of a study pursuant to this  
16 act. A study conducted pursuant to this act shall have the goals of  
17 informing communities and stakeholders about the protection,  
18 conservation, recreational use, and economic development of water  
19 resources and to encourage the protection of the rights of the  
20 citizens of this state to use water for riparian and domestic use as  
21 authorized pursuant to Section 105.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma  
22 Statutes.

23 2. Water economic impact studies shall only be conducted on the  
24 Little River in McCurtain County, the Glover River in McCurtain

1 County, and the Mountain Fork River in McCurtain County. Any water  
2 economic impact study conducted pursuant to this act shall commence  
3 upon the availability of funds.

4 D. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board may work in cooperation  
5 with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to conduct any water  
6 economic impact study conducted under this act. A final copy of the  
7 completed instream flow study shall be submitted to the Governor,  
8 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
9 Representatives, and the Secretary of Energy and Environment.

10 E. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board may promulgate rules to  
11 implement the provisions of this act.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

13 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
14 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

17 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
18 April 13, 2022 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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