

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

SENATE BILL 1852

By: David

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to Oklahoma Energy Initiative Act; amending 17 O.S. 2021, Sections 802.2 and 802.3, which relate to the Oklahoma Energy Initiative duties and board; requiring Initiative to add certain energy practices to scope; conforming language; modifying Energy Initiative Board members; removing certain institutions from Board; adding certain energy industry producers to Board; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 802.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 802.2. A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Energy Initiative, referred to in this act as the Initiative, which shall serve as a strategic program designed to create, advance, and promote new and existing energy research and development, efforts use, supply chain activity, and infrastructure related to Oklahoma's core energy competencies by:

1. Promoting research and development in the areas of conventional and unconventional oil and natural gas development and

1 production, hydrogen production, CO₂ enhanced oil recovery, wind
2 forecasting, advanced biofuels, energy storage, water management,
3 energy policy and economic analysis, energy system optimization,
4 renewable energy integration into the electrical grid, and similar
5 energy technologies;

6 2. Fostering communication and collaboration between state and
7 federal governmental agencies, institutions of higher education,
8 ~~nonprofit research institutions~~, and private entities located
9 throughout Oklahoma;

10 3. Advancing research and development programs and growing
11 production, supply chain activity, and infrastructure that provide
12 benefits to all industries and regions of the state;

13 4. Streamlining research and development efforts between
14 private and public industry to create synergistic relationships that
15 coordinate, not duplicate, ~~research~~ efforts;

16 5. Establishing Oklahoma as a regional resource and
17 clearinghouse for transformative energy technologies in the areas of
18 traditional energy, hydrogen production, and renewable resource
19 research and development;

20 6. Attracting best-in-class researchers to Oklahoma in
21 competency areas aligned with Oklahoma's natural resource base;

22 7. Coordinating with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to
23 enhance venture capital investment in energy-related research and
24 business opportunities; and
25

1 8. Promoting seed funding that can be leveraged against state,
2 federal, and private-source funding to establish sufficient startup
3 resources.

4 B. The Initiative may receive assistance from any state agency
5 or public entity to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy
6 Initiative Act, including, but not limited to, administrative
7 assistance, staffing or legal counsel and provision of office space
8 or equipment as necessary. Assistance agreements may be made by
9 memorandums of understanding or as otherwise provided by law.

10 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 802.3, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Section 802.3. A. The Oklahoma Energy Initiative shall be
13 administered and governed by the Oklahoma Energy Initiative Board,
14 made up of representatives of the contributing ~~institutions~~ entities
15 of the Initiative which ~~initially~~ shall be the University of
16 Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, ~~Oklahoma City University~~, the
17 University of Tulsa, ~~and the Noble Foundation~~ and representatives of
18 the petroleum industry and the renewable energy industry.

19 Additional contributing ~~institutions~~ members may be added at the
20 discretion of the Board, ~~as such institutions~~ if they contribute to
21 the purpose, objectives, and research coordinated by the Initiative.
22 ~~Additional contributing institutions may include state, federal, and~~
23 ~~private agencies, institutions of higher education, nonprofit~~
24 ~~research institutions, and private entities.~~

1 B. The Board shall ~~initially~~ consist of ~~six (6)~~ nine (9)
2 members as follows:

3 1. One member, who shall serve as the chair of the Board, shall
4 be the Secretary of Energy and Environment or a member otherwise
5 appointed by the Governor;

6 2. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
7 the University of Oklahoma or a member otherwise appointed by the
8 President of the University of Oklahoma;

9 3. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
10 Oklahoma State University or a member otherwise appointed by the
11 President of Oklahoma State University;

12 4. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
13 the University of Tulsa or a member otherwise appointed by the
14 ~~Governor~~ President of the University of Tulsa;

15 5. One member who shall ~~be the Vice President of Research from~~
16 ~~Oklahoma City University or a member otherwise~~ represent a crude oil
17 and natural gas producer with annual Oklahoma production of at least
18 six million (6,000,000) barrel of oil equivalent (BOE), as nominated
19 by the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board and appointed by the Speaker
20 of the House of Representatives; ~~and~~

21 6. One member who shall represent ~~the Samuel Roberts Noble~~
22 ~~Foundation~~ a crude oil and natural gas producer with annual Oklahoma
23 production of less than six million (6,000,000) barrel of oil
24

1 equivalent (BOE), as nominated by the Oklahoma Energy Resources
2 Board and appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

3 7. One member who shall represent a crude oil and natural gas
4 midstream company, as nominated by the Oklahoma Energy Resources
5 Board and appointed by the Governor;

6 8. One member who shall represent the Advanced Power Alliance
7 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

8 9. One member who shall represent the Oklahoma Solar
9 Association appointed by the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives.

11 C. Board members shall serve for a term of four (4) years,
12 which shall begin on January 1 of the first year of the appointment
13 and end on December 31 of the fourth year. There shall be no limit
14 to the number of consecutive terms served. If a vacancy should
15 occur during a member's term, the appointing authority for the
16 vacant position shall appoint a new member to fill the remainder of
17 the unexpired term. Board members shall serve without compensation
18 but may be eligible for necessary travel expenses pursuant to the
19 State Travel Reimbursement Act.

20 D. The Board shall be responsible for establishing procedures
21 for the Initiative and operations of the Board. The rules may
22 provide for protection from public disclosure of trade secrets and
23 proprietary information of any kind, including, but not limited to,
24 data, processes and technology, as the Board determines necessary.

1 E. The Board shall undertake activities and commission
2 programs, through the contributing institutions, to achieve the
3 purpose and satisfy the objectives of the Initiative as provided in
4 the Oklahoma Energy Initiative Act. The Board shall have authority
5 to distribute funding for such activities and programs. The Board
6 may employ staff as it deems necessary.

7 F. The Board shall prepare an annual, written report to
8 summarize the annual progress of the Initiative, including summaries
9 of its programs and their progress and outcomes. The report shall
10 be made available to the public and shall be distributed to the
11 Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker
12 of the House of Representatives.

13 G. The provisions of ~~The~~ the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act
14 shall not apply to any project, activity or contract of the
15 Initiative or the Board.

16 H. No Board member or any person acting on behalf of the Board
17 or Initiative executing any contracts, commitments or agreements
18 issued by or on behalf of the Oklahoma Energy Initiative shall be
19 personally liable for the contracts, commitments, or agreements or
20 be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason
21 thereof. No director or any person acting on behalf of the Board or
22 Initiative shall be personally liable for damage or injury resulting
23 from the performance of duties hereunder.
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SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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