1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023) COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE 3 HOUSE BILL NO. 1847 4 By: Kane 5 6 7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE An Act relating to environment and natural resources; 8 amending 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2251, which relates 9 to the Emergency Drought Commission; expanding Commission membership; and declaring an emergency. 10 11 12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2251, is 1.3 14 amended to read as follows: 15 Section 2251. In the event of a formal declaration of emergency 16 drought conditions by the Governor, the Emergency Drought Commission 17 shall be formed consisting of the Executive Director of the Oklahoma 18 Conservation Commission, the Secretary of Agriculture and, the 19 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, one member 20 who resides west of Interstate 35 (I-35), appointed by the Speaker 21 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and one member who resides 22 east of Interstate 35 (I-35), appointed by the President Pro Tempore 23 of the Oklahoma State Senate. The Emergency Drought Commission 24 shall determine the expenditures to be made from the Emergency

Drought Relief Fund created in Section 1 of this act, subject to approval by the Governor and shall determine the appropriate agency to expend the funds. The Emergency Drought Commission shall also serve as a drought advisory panel to the Governor and the various state agencies. The activities of the Emergency Drought Commission shall continue until it is determined by the Governor that a drought emergency no longer exists in the state. SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and

be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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