

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

SENATE BILL 976

By: Murdock and Bullard

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to fish and wildlife; creating the Invasive Species Task Force; stating purpose; providing for membership; establishing leadership for Task Force; providing for reimbursement; allowing for additional administration if necessary; directing Task Force to provide report to the Legislature by certain time; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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 3-316 of Title 29, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the "Invasive Species Task Force". The purpose of the Task Force is to study and make recommendations of appropriate measures to combat and slow the spread of invasive species in this state in order to protect Oklahoma's wildlife habitats.

B. The Task Force shall consist of ten (10) members:

1        1. Two members representing the Department of Wildlife  
2 Conservation;

3        2. Two members representing the Oklahoma Department of  
4 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;

5        3. Two members representing the Oklahoma Conservation  
6 Commission;

7        4. Two members representing Oklahoma State University Extension  
8 Service; and

9        5. Two members representing Murray State College.

10       C. The appointed members from the Department of Wildlife  
11 Conservation shall serve as co-chairs of the Task Force. The co-  
12 chairs shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force. The Task  
13 Force shall meet as often as necessary.

14       D. Appointments to the Task Force shall be made by January 1,  
15 2024.

16       E. If applicable, members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed  
17 by their respective entities for necessary travel expenses incurred  
18 in the performance of duties pursuant to the provisions of the State  
19 Travel Reimbursement Act.

20       F. Administrative support for the Task Force including, but not  
21 limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of  
22 the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force shall be provided,  
23 if necessary, by the representative entities involved in the Task  
24 Force.

1       G. The Task Force shall publish a report of findings and  
2 recommendations to the Legislature by September 1, 2024, including  
3 recommendations for any resulting legislation.

4       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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