

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 976

By: Murdock and Bullard of the
Senate

3 and

4 Newton of the House

5
6 An Act relating to fish and wildlife; creating the
7 Invasive Species Task Force; stating purpose;
8 providing for membership; establishing leadership for
9 Task Force; providing for reimbursement; allowing for
10 additional administration if necessary; directing
11 Task Force to provide report to the Legislature by
12 certain time; providing for codification; and
13 providing an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-316 of Title 29, unless there
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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

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

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

1 2. Two members representing the Oklahoma Department of
2 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
3 3. Two members representing the Oklahoma Conservation
4 Commission;
5 4. Two members representing Oklahoma State University Extension
6 Service; and
7 5. Two members representing Murray State College.
8 C. The appointed members from the Department of Wildlife
9 Conservation shall serve as co-chairs of the Task Force. The co-
10 chairs shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force. The Task
11 Force shall meet as often as necessary.
12 D. Appointments to the Task Force shall be made by January 1,
13 2024.
14 E. If applicable, members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed
15 by their respective entities for necessary travel expenses incurred
16 in the performance of duties pursuant to the provisions of the State
17 Travel Reimbursement Act.
18 F. Administrative support for the Task Force including, but not
19 limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of
20 the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force shall be provided,
21 if necessary, by the representative entities involved in the Task
22 Force.
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G. The Task Force shall publish a report of findings and recommendations to the Legislature by September 1, 2024, including recommendations for any resulting legislation.

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

Passed the Senate the 20th day of March, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives