

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1273
Version:	FA1
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Townley
Date:	4/18/2024
Impact:	\$72,992.00

Research Analysis

The floor amendment for SB 1273 ensures that DEQ will first look to in-state universities to find a qualified academic partner for the study of the Blue River-Little Blue Creek.

SB 1273 creates a revolving fund for the Department of Environmental Quality and appropriates \$1 million so the agency can work with Baylor University's Center for Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research and any other relevant state and federal agencies to assess the health of the [Blue River-Little Blue Creek](#) in SE Oklahoma.

Prepared By: Tricia Hines

Fiscal Analysis

This measure requires the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to work with a partner to create and implement a study on the Blue River known as the Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study. DEQ believes it will need the \$1,000,000.00 appropriation in this version of the bill to conduct the study, and an additional Full Time Employee (FTE) at a salary and benefits costs of \$72,992.00. This creates a total fiscal impact of \$1,072,992.00, to the state budget.

The Subcommittee Recommendation removes the \$1,000,000.00 appropriation from the measure. To complete the study DEQ will still likely need one FTE. Given the removal of the appropriation but the need for staff, the fiscal impact is adjusted to show the costs of one additional FTE to DEQ to conduct the study.

The Floor Amendment does not change the fiscal impact of the measure.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.