

OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE  
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

May 21, 2024

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

SB1273

By: Alvord of the Senate and Townley and Deck of the House

Title: Department of Environmental Quality; establishing Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study, establishing revolving fund for certain purpose. Effective date Emergency

together with Engrossed House Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

1. That the House recede from all Amendments
2. That the following Conference Committee Amendment be adopted:

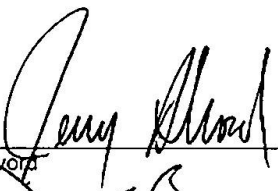


"On page 2, lines 9 – 13, after the period on line 9 and before the word "The" on line 13, by deleting all language and inserting the words "The Department shall coordinate with a research university for the purpose of defining the study scope and conducting work necessary to complete data collection and the development of the Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study. The Department shall preference resources and partnerships within this state during evaluation for the performance of conducting this study."


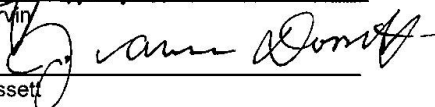
3. By restoring the title as follows:

"An Act relating to the Department of Environmental Quality, creating the Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study Revolving Fund; establishing fund source and purpose, establishing Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study, requiring coordination with certain entity for certain purposes, providing for coordination with certain state and federal agencies, providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency"

Respectfully submitted,

SENATE CONFEREES:

  
Alvord  
  
Butler  
  
Pederson

  
Garvin  
  
Dossett

HOUSE CONFEREES:

Conference Committee on GCCA

Senate Action \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ House Action \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT  
2 TO  
3 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1273 By: Alvord of the Senate  
4 and  
5 Townley of the House  
6  
7 [ Department of Environmental Quality - Revolving  
8 Fund - Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health  
9 Assessment Study - coordination - appropriation -  
10 codification - effective date -  
11 emergency ]  
12  
13 AUTHOR: Add the following House Coauthor: Deck  
14 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the stricken title, enacting clause, and  
15 entire bill and insert:  
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18 "[ Department of Environmental Quality - revolving  
19 fund - Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health  
20 Assessment Study - coordination - appropriation -  
21 codification - effective date -  
22 emergency ]  
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1 ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

2       SECTION 1.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
3 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2-3-404 of Title 27A, unless  
4 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

5       A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving  
6 fund for the Department of Environmental Quality to be designated  
7 the "Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study  
8 Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject  
9 to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received  
10 by the Department from appropriations, apportionments, donations,  
11 and federal grants received for the purpose of completing the study  
12 created pursuant to subsection B of this section. All monies  
13 accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may  
14 be budgeted and expended by the Department for the purpose provided  
15 for in this section. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon  
16 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as  
17 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and  
18 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

19       B. Pursuant to the requirements of Section 1-3-101 of Title 27A  
20 of the Oklahoma Statutes as it relates to waters emanating from a  
21 sensitive sole source aquifer, the Department shall establish and  
22 perform a Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment  
23 Study. The Department shall first seek to coordinate with a  
24 qualified in-state university for the purpose of defining the study

1 scope and conducting the work necessary to complete data collection  
2 and the development of the Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream  
3 Health Assessment Study. However, if no in-state universities are  
4 qualified, the Department shall coordinate with the Center for  
5 Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research at Baylor University for the  
6 purpose of defining the study scope and conducting the work  
7 necessary to complete data collection and the development of the  
8 Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study. The  
9 Department may coordinate with other relevant state and federal  
10 agencies to effectuate the provisions of this section.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

12 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
13 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of April, 2024.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives  
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6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate  
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1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 1273

By: Alvord of the Senate

3 and

4 Townley of the House

5  
6 [ Department of Environmental Quality - Revolving  
7 Fund - Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health  
8 Assessment Study - coordination - appropriation -  
9 codification - effective date -

emergency ]

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

12 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2-3-404 of Title 27A, unless  
14 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving  
16 fund for the Department of Environmental Quality to be designated  
17 the "Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study  
18 Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject  
19 to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received  
20 by the Department from appropriations, apportionments, donations,  
21 and federal grants received for the purpose of completing the study  
22 created pursuant to subsection B of this section. All monies  
23 accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may  
24 be budgeted and expended by the Department for the purpose provided

1 for in this section. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon  
2 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as  
3 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and  
4 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

5 B. Pursuant to the requirements of Section 1-3-101 of Title 27A  
6 of the Oklahoma Statutes as it relates to waters emanating from a  
7 sensitive sole source aquifer, the Department shall establish and  
8 perform a Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment  
9 Study. The Department shall coordinate with the Center for  
10 Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research at Baylor University for the  
11 purpose of defining the study scope and conducting the work  
12 necessary to complete data collection and the development of the  
13 Blue River-Little Blue Creek Stream Health Assessment Study. The  
14 Department may coordinate with other relevant state and federal  
15 agencies to effectuate the provisions of this section.

16 SECTION 5. There is hereby appropriated to the Department of  
17 Environmental Quality from any monies not otherwise appropriated  
18 from the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal  
19 year ending June 30, 2023, the sum of One Million Dollars  
20 (\$1,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to perform  
21 the duties imposed upon the Department by law.

22 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

23 SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

3 Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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7 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
8 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

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