

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 3198

By: Worthen, Newton, Caldwell
(Trey), Dobrinski, Talley,
Pae, Lowe (Dick), Pfeiffer,
Ranson, and Provenzano of
the House

and

Jech of the Senate

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9 An Act relating to public lands; requiring the
Commissioners of the Land Office to remove or
10 eradicate certain harmful woody species; defining
term; providing timeframe for removal and
11 eradication; providing for program funding; providing
for codification; providing an effective date; and
12 declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2001 of Title 64, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. The Commissioners of the Land Office shall consult with the
20 Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the Oklahoma State University
21 Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to identify
22 acreages and recommend an action plan designed to remove or
23 eradicate all harmful woody species on land owned by and leased by
24 the Commissioners of the Land Office. "Harmful woody species" means

1 a tree or shrub species that is rapidly encroaching into adjoining
2 lands and is likely to cause harm to the environment or economy.
3 Harmful woody species include, but are not limited to, *Juniperus*
4 *virginiana* (eastern red cedar), *Juniperus scopulorum* (Rocky Mountain
5 juniper), *Juniperus monosperma* (one-seed juniper), *Juniperus*
6 *pinchotii* (redberry juniper), *Juniperus ashei* (ashe juniper),
7 *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite), and *Tamarix ramosissima* (salt
8 cedar).

9 This removal and eradication of these harmful woody species
10 shall begin January 1, 2025, and will remove and eradicate twenty
11 percent (20%) of the harmful and woody species each year on
12 identified acreages through December 31, 2029. It being the intent
13 to remove all of the harmful woody species on the identified
14 acreages at the end of the five (5) year period.

15 B. The Commissioners of the Land Office may fund this removal
16 and eradication program through donations from organizations,
17 individuals, and corporations supporting improved habitat for
18 wildlife or livestock production, as well as through grants from
19 federal agencies, and from all other funding that is available to
20 the Commissioners of the Land Office.

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

22 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
23 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
24 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and

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

2 Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of March, 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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