

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 3182

By: Patzkowsky and May of the
House

3 and

4 Pederson of the Senate
5

6 An Act relating to the Emergency Drought Commission;
7 amending 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2251, as amended by
8 Section 1, Chapter 48, O.S.L. 2023 (27A O.S. Supp.
9 2023, Section 2251) and 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2252,
10 which relate to drought relief; changing the name
11 Emergency Drought Commission to Emergency Drought
12 Committee; providing that the Emergency Drought
13 Committee shall meet at the call of the Secretary of
14 the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and
15 Forestry; providing that expenditures from the
16 Emergency Drought Relief Fund shall require majority
17 approval; and declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2251, as
20 amended by Section 1, Chapter 48, O.S.L. 2023 (27A O.S. Supp. 2023,
21 Section 2251), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 2251. ~~In the event of a formal declaration of emergency~~
23 ~~drought conditions by the Governor, the Emergency~~

24 A. A Drought ~~Commission~~ Committee shall be formed consisting of
the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, the
~~Secretary~~ Commissioner of Agriculture, the Executive Director of the
Oklahoma Water Resources Board, one member who resides west of
Interstate 35 (I-35), appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House

1 of Representatives, and one member who resides east of Interstate 35
2 (I-35), appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State
3 Senate.

4 B. The Emergency Drought Committee shall meet at the call of
5 the Commissioner of Agriculture when the Commissioner declares that
6 emergency drought conditions exist in the state.

7 C. The Emergency Drought ~~Commission~~ Committee shall determine
8 the expenditures to be made from the Emergency Drought Relief Fund
9 created in Section 2250 of this title, subject to approval by ~~the~~
10 ~~Governor~~ a majority of the Committee and shall determine the
11 appropriate agency to expend the funds.

12 D. The Emergency Drought ~~Commission~~ Committee shall also serve
13 as a drought advisory panel to the Governor and the various state
14 agencies. ~~The activities of the Emergency Drought Commission shall~~
15 ~~continue until it is determined by the Governor that a drought~~
16 ~~emergency no longer exists in the state.~~

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2252, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 2252. The Emergency Drought Relief Fund shall be
20 available for drought response activities within the state that may
21 include but shall not be limited to:

- 22 1. Pond cleanup and construction;
- 23 2. Water conservation methods in production agriculture;
- 24 3. Providing of water for livestock;

- 1 4. Rural fire suppression activities as directed by the
- 2 Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
- 3 5. Red cedar eradication;
- 4 6. Soil conservation;
- 5 7. Emergency infrastructure conservation and measures; ~~and~~
- 6 8. Wildland fire response; and
- 7 9. Any other drought response activities identified by the
- 8 Emergency Drought ~~Commission~~ Committee.

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

13 Passed the House of Representatives the 7th day of March, 2024.

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15 _____
16 Presiding Officer of the House
17 of Representatives

18 Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2024.

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20 _____
21 Presiding Officer of the Senate