

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 31, 2022

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 3636

By: Dempsey and Humphrey of the
House

6 and

7 Bullard of the Senate

8
9 [water and water rights - Oklahoma Water Economic
10 Impact Study Act - Oklahoma Water Economic Impact
11 Study Fund - sources of revenue - instream flow
studies on certain bodies of water - codification -
effective date -

emergency]

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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 1702 of Title 82, unless there
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma
19 Water Economic Impact Study Act".

20 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
21 fund for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to be designated the
22 "Oklahoma Water Economic Impact Study Fund" for the purpose of
23 conducting instream flow studies. The revolving fund shall be a
24 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall

1 consist of all monies received by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board
2 from the appropriations, apportionments, donations, federal grants,
3 and fee revenues designated for the purposes of implementing the
4 provisions of this act. All monies accruing to the credit of the
5 fund may be budgeted and expended by the Secretary of Energy and
6 Environment, in agreement with the Executive Director of the
7 Oklahoma Water Resources Board. Expenditures from the fund shall be
8 made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims
9 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of
10 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

11 C. 1. The Secretary of Energy and Environment and the
12 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall
13 confer for the consideration of conducting a water economic impact
14 study. Water economic impact studies shall be conducted for the
15 purpose of educating stakeholders on the value of all uses of the
16 particular body of water at the subject of a study pursuant to this
17 act. A study conducted pursuant to this act shall have the goals of
18 informing communities and stakeholders about the protection,
19 conservation, recreational use, and economic development of water
20 resources and to encourage the protection of the rights of the
21 citizens of this state to use water for riparian and domestic use as
22 authorized pursuant to Section 105.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma
23 Statutes.

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1 2. Water economic impact studies shall only be conducted on the
2 Little River in McCurtain County, the Glover River in McCurtain
3 County, and the Mountain Fork River in McCurtain County. Any water
4 economic impact study conducted pursuant to this act shall commence
5 upon the availability of funds.

6 D. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board may work in cooperation
7 with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to conduct any water
8 economic impact study conducted under this act. A final copy of the
9 completed instream flow study shall be submitted to the Governor,
10 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives, and the Secretary of Energy and Environment.

12 E. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board may promulgate rules to
13 implement the provisions of this act.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

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

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
20 March 31, 2022 - DO PASS AS AMENDED

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