

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 1015

By: Osborn

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7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Concurrent Resolution designating February 16,  
9 2016, Water Appreciation Day at the State Capitol;  
10 encouraging recognition of the value and significance  
11 of water resources; and directing distribution.

12 WHEREAS, Oklahoma's water is a unique and precious resource that  
13 binds all Oklahomans to a rich past and promising future; and

14 WHEREAS, Oklahoma has 1,400 square miles of water in lakes and  
15 ponds, 320 million acre-feet of water stored in its major aquifers,  
16 and 167,000 miles of rivers and streams, making it a state abundant  
17 in water resources. No natural resource is as vital to the welfare  
18 of Oklahoma as clean, accessible water, of which more than 1.5  
19 trillion gallons are used every day throughout the state; and

20 WHEREAS, the proper care and management of water is vital to  
21 Oklahoma due to its value to public health, industry and commerce,  
22 aquatic and wildlife species, and vibrant tourism industry in  
23 Oklahoma; and

1       WHEREAS, the 2012 Update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water  
2 Plan (OCWP) remains unprecedented in its review of the state's  
3 current and future water demands, water and wastewater  
4 infrastructure needs and priority water management issues; and

5       WHEREAS, several legislative initiatives have arisen from the  
6 recommendations contained in the OCWP to guide the management and  
7 protection of Oklahoma's water resources for the next fifty years  
8 and beyond, including the passage of House Bill 3055 in 2012 which  
9 created the Water For 2060 Act and made Oklahoma the first state in  
10 the nation to establish a bold, statewide goal of consuming no more  
11 fresh water in 2060 than was consumed in 2012 while preserving  
12 Oklahoma's population growth and economic development goals; and

13       WHEREAS, on October 6, 2015, the Water for 2060 Advisory Council  
14 submitted its final report of recommendations for achieving the goal  
15 established under the Water for 2060 Act; and

16       WHEREAS, the dedicated public servants of the Oklahoma Water  
17 Resources Board are passionate about their mission of protecting and  
18 enhancing the quality of life for Oklahomans by managing and  
19 improving the state's water resources to ensure clean and reliable  
20 water supplies, a strong economy and a safe and healthy environment.  
21 That dedication and passion has resulted in the agency recently  
22 being awarded one of The Oklahoman's Top Workplaces for the third  
23 consecutive year.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature designates February 16, 2016 as  
5 "Water Appreciation Day" at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

6 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the importance of water  
7 interests to the State of Oklahoma and urges all Oklahoma citizens  
8 to respect the value and significance of the water resources in  
9 Oklahoma.

10 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Executive  
11 Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for distribution to  
12 the state environmental agencies and organizations participating in  
13 "Water Appreciation Day" at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

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