

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 22, 2016

3 SENATE BILL NO. 1223

By: Garrison

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7 An Act relating to pesticides; creating a task force
8 to study and create recommendations based on
9 pesticides and their effect on pollinator
10 populations; providing expiration date; setting
11 duties; providing for membership; providing for
12 naming of chair; providing for quorum; providing that
13 members receive no compensation; providing for travel
14 reimbursement if funds are available; providing for
15 staff support; requiring certain report; providing
16 for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-85.1 of Title 2, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. There is hereby created, to continue until December 31,
22 2017, the "Pollinator and Pesticide Task Force".

23 B. The Task Force shall serve in an advisory capacity to the
24 state legislature to study and develop legislative recommendations
to address the issue of declining pollinator populations in the
State of Oklahoma. The Task Force shall study, review and make
recommendations on the following:

- 1 1. The causes of declining populations of pollinators;
 - 2 2. The effects of certain pesticides on pollinators,
 - 3 specifically the class of neonicotinoids;
 - 4 3. The costs and benefits of using certain pesticides,
 - 5 specifically the class of neonicotinoids;
 - 6 4. The costs and benefits of using alternative pesticides or
 - 7 pest control methods that have a reduced impact on pollinators; and
 - 8 5. Solutions to increase pollinator populations.
- 9 C. The Task Force shall consist of five (5) members:
- 10 1. The Secretary of Agriculture or designee;
 - 11 2. The Director of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission or
 - 12 designee;
 - 13 3. One member of the agriculture industry, appointed by the
 - 14 Governor;
 - 15 4. One member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro
 - 16 Tempore of the Senate; and
 - 17 5. One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the
 - 18 Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 19 D. The member of the House of Representatives and the member of
- 20 the Senate shall serve as co-chairs of the Task Force. Appointments
- 21 to the Task Force shall be made within thirty (30) days after the
- 22 effective date of this act. Meetings of the Task Force shall be
- 23 held at the call of either co-chair of the Task Force. Members
- 24 shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. A

1 majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum
2 to transact business, but no vacancy shall impair the right of the
3 remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the Task Force.
4 A vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled by the original
5 appointing authority. Staff support for the Task Force shall be
6 provided by the staff of the House of Representatives, Senate and
7 the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. The
8 Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the Oklahoma Department of
9 Environmental Quality shall provide support and information as
10 requested by the Task Force.

11 E. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for
12 serving on the Task Force, but may receive travel reimbursement by
13 the appointing authority in accordance with the provisions of the
14 State Travel Reimbursement Act, contingent on the availability of
15 public or private funds for this purpose. Legislative members may
16 be reimbursed pursuant to Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
17 Statutes.

18 F. The Task Force shall submit a final report by November 30,
19 2017, to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and
20 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
23 February 22, 2016 - DO PASS
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