STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1580   By: Woods

AS INTRODUCED

    An Act relating to rural water districts; directing
    board of county commissioners to intervene following
    certain water shortage; specifying reparations to be
    considered; directing sustainability study by certain
    entities under certain circumstances; providing for
    codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

    SECTION 1.   NEW LAW   A new section of law to be codified

in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1324.36 of Title 82, unless

there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

    A. In the event that a water shortage, compromised treatment

facility, or other emergency water issue impacts water provision to

a rural water district organized under Section 1324.1 et seq. of

Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes for not less than five (5)

calendar days, the board of county commissioners for the district

shall convene a public meeting and take any action deemed necessary

to compel reparations by the rural water district of the stated

issue. Such reparations may include, but not be limited to,

entering into water purchase agreements, requiring the district to

1 seek financing for repairs, or investigation of third-party

2 financing options that may be available.

3   B.   If a water source for a rural water district is at or near

4 capacity, as determined by the board of county commissioners, the

5 board may direct a study to be conducted by the Oklahoma Water

6 Resources Board and the United States Army Corps of Engineers

7 regarding water sustainability for the district.

8   SECTION 2.   It being immediately necessary for the preservation

9 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

10 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and

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

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