

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 194

By: Silk

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to water; stating purpose;  
8 prohibiting transfer of water from certain area to  
9 protect tourism and recreation industry; stating  
10 exceptions; providing for codification; providing for  
11 noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
14 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

15 In an effort to protect the vital economic interests generated  
16 by the tourism and recreation industry in this state, especially the  
17 region of Southeastern Oklahoma, which is the largest producer of  
18 tourism dollars in the state and totally dependent on the promotion  
19 and utilization of the abundant and pristine lakes and streams  
20 flowing in and through this region, the provisions Section 2 of this  
21 act shall be enacted.

22 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1E of Title 82, unless there is  
24 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1           A. Upon the effective date of this act, the Oklahoma Water  
2 Resources Board shall not issue any permit for the unnatural  
3 transfer of groundwater or surface water originating in or flowing  
4 through any portion of water within McCurtain County or issue any  
5 permit for groundwater or surface water outside of McCurtain County  
6 which would affect the natural amount and flow of waters originating  
7 in or flowing through McCurtain County.

8           B. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not  
9 affect any permit, issued by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, in  
10 effect prior to the effective date of this act nor shall it affect  
11 any current or future permit applications brought before the Board  
12 from a local governmental entity for the purpose of providing  
13 drinking water for residents of southeastern Oklahoma or by any  
14 industry requiring a water permit to construct or operate its  
15 business within the region.

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

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21           55-1-903           MJM           1/14/2015 11:20:18 AM

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