

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2471
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	8214
Author:	Speaker McCall
Date:	3/1/2019
Impact:	OWRB: Conservatively \$5,028,000

**DOM: (1) FTE, fiscal impact of \$90,000
plus costs for water sampling
approximately \$2,500 annually.**

**DEQ: The direct fiscal
impact is minimal.
However, the fiscal impact
cannot be estimated for the
required coordination to
implement the project.**

Research Analysis

The PCS for HB 2471 establishes a moratorium on mine operations and mining permits that may affect sensitive sole source groundwater basins or subbasins. The measure lays out conditions for the termination of the moratorium, including a coordinated effort between the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Mines, East Central University, and federal and tribal governmental agencies to study sensitive sole source aquifers and develop administrative rules that implement study findings and facilitate interagency coordination.

Prepared By: Tricia Hines

Fiscal Analysis

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board, referenced the language in subsection (C) (1) directing the agency to complete a study and develop modeling and other technical tools. From that language, the agency estimates costs for this study and the model development to cost approximately \$5 million. The agency notes they have been in discussions for various funding partners; however, they currently lack the funding for the referenced study. Lastly, the total fiscal impact to the agency, if any, regarding completion of the study, is yet to be determined.

The OWRB does expect to commit significant staff time to the development and promulgation of the rulemaking identified in subsection (C) (2). This effort will likely take place after the completion of the multi-year study and development of modeling tools. Based on previous promulgation of rules associated with the Arbuckle Simpson groundwater basin, the OWRB expects to expend approximately \$28,000 based on current salary costs.

The Department of Mines anticipates the need to hire one (1) FTE at approximately \$80,000 for a hydrologist or an engineer. Additional costs anticipated, include an estimated \$10,000 for

equipment, and lastly, the required water sampling will have an impact of conservatively, \$2,500 annually.

After analysis, the measure as written has a minimal direct fiscal impact to the Department of Environmental Quality. However, per the agency, the requirements in the measure relating to coordination, consultation and rulemaking is anticipated to require significant amounts of staff time, and, they cannot reasonably offer the impact for this.

Prepared By: Jenny Mobley

Other Considerations

None.