

OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE
CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE REPORT

May 18, 2022

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

SB429

By: Thompson and Hall of the Senate and Wallace and Hilbert of the House


Title: OWRB; appropriating funds related to ARPA projects.

together with Engrossed House Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

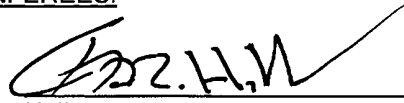
1. That the House recede from all Amendments.
2. That the attached Conference Committee Substitute be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

SENATE CONFEREES:



Thompson



Hall



Treat

Floyd



McCortney



HOUSE CONFEREES:

Special Conference Committee on ARPA

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 429

6 By: Thompson and Hall

7 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Water Resources
9 Board; making appropriations; stating purposes;
10 requiring that portions of certain funds be utilized
11 for certain grants; establishing certain priority for
12 certain funding; providing requirements and
13 limitations for the grants; allowing certain funds to
14 be reserved; and requiring promulgation of rules and
15 establishment of procedures for administration of
16 grants.

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

18 SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma
19 Water Resources Board from any monies not otherwise appropriated
20 from the Statewide Recovery Fund created pursuant to Enrolled House
21 Bill No. 3349 of the 2nd Session of the 58th Oklahoma Legislature,
22 the sum of Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00) or so much thereof
23 as may be necessary to establish grant programs that facilitate the
24 design, construction, and maintenance of water and wastewater
infrastructure, and to improve the condition of publicly owned,
deficient dams regulated by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

1 SECTION 2. From the funds appropriated by Section 1 of this
2 act, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board is hereby authorized to
3 expend Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) for a grant
4 program for communities with a population of seven thousand (7,000)
5 or less as reported in the most recent decennial census published by
6 the United States Bureau of the Census or to rural water districts
7 with less than 2,300 non-pasture taps for projects that meet the
8 federal eligibility requirements of the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus
9 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule for water and
10 wastewater investments. The Board may reserve not more than four
11 percent (4%) from this expenditure authority for purposes of
12 administering the program.

13 SECTION 3. From the funds appropriated by Section 1 of this
14 act, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board is hereby authorized to
15 expend Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) for a grant program
16 for communities with a population greater than seven thousand
17 (7,000) as reported in the most recent decennial census published by
18 the United States Bureau of the Census or to rural water districts
19 with more than 2,300 non-pasture taps for projects that meet the
20 federal eligibility requirements of the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus
21 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule for water and
22 wastewater investments. The Board may reserve not more than four
23 percent (4%) from this expenditure authority for purposes of
24 administering the program.

1 SECTION 4. From the funds appropriated by Section 1 of this
2 act, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board is hereby authorized to
3 expend Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) for a grant program for
4 communities that own dams with the latest condition assessment of
5 poor or unsatisfactory. Priority for funding shall be given to
6 communities that have a population of less than seven thousand
7 (7,000) as reported in the most recent decennial census published by
8 the United States Bureau of the Census. Projects funded by the
9 grant program shall be limited to up to One Million Dollars
10 (\$1,000,000.00) per community and must meet the federal eligibility
11 requirements of the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local
12 Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule. The Board may reserve not more
13 than seven and one-half percent (7.5%) from this expenditure
14 authority for purposes of administering the program.

15 SECTION 5. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall promulgate
16 rules and establish procedures for evaluating and awarding grant
17 applications for grant programs provided for in Sections 2, 3, and 4
18 of this act.

19 SECTION 6. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Water
20 Resources Board from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the
21 Statewide Recovery Fund created pursuant to Enrolled House Bill No.
22 3349 of the 2nd Session of the 58th Oklahoma Legislature, the sum of
23 Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be
24 necessary to match tribal investment in rural water infrastructure

1 projects within areas of the state that are tribal reservations.
2 Projects shall meet the federal eligibility requirements of the U.S.
3 Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final
4 Rule for water and wastewater investments.

5 SECTION 7. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Water
6 Resources Board from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the
7 Statewide Recovery Fund created pursuant to Enrolled House Bill No.
8 3349 of the 2nd Session of the 58th Oklahoma Legislature, the sum of
9 Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) or so much thereof as
10 may be necessary to promote water conservation, encourage economic
11 longevity, and ensure reliable food supply by converting portions of
12 an open ditch irrigation system to pipe within the Lugert-Altus
13 Irrigation District. Projects funded shall meet the federal
14 eligibility requirements of the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus State
15 and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule.

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