

# An Act

ENROLLED SENATE  
BILL NO. 1022

By: David of the Senate

and

Boles of the House

An Act relating to waters and water rights; amending 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1085.12, which relates to the powers and duties of the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; providing gender-neutral language; modifying reference to Board; authorizing Executive Director to issue certain permits; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Oklahoma Water Resources Board

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1085.12, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1085.12. A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall appoint an Executive Director, who shall have had at least six (6) years practical and administrative experience in water resource management, and fix his or her duties and compensation. The ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board is specifically authorized to delegate to such Executive Director such of its powers and duties as it may deem proper, including powers and duties involving the exercise of official discretion. The authority hereby granted to the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board to delegate powers and duties to the Executive Director shall extend to any powers and duties given or transferred to the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board under this ~~act~~ title, or under any other law conferring powers or imposing duties

upon the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board, and shall also extend to any powers conferred or duties imposed upon the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board by any future law, unless ~~such future laws shall any law expressly negate~~ negates the authority to make such delegation. Any other part of this ~~act~~ title, or any other law granting authority to the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board to delegate any powers or duties, shall not be deemed to be a limitation upon the authority conferred by this section. The Executive Director shall exercise any such delegated powers and perform such delegated duties, in accordance with any rules, regulations or orders made by the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board which are applicable thereto. Provided, however, the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board shall not delegate to such director any power of determining policy, the execution of any contract or the final adjudication of any claims, applications or controversies, all of which powers and duties shall be exercised solely by the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources~~ Board.

B. In addition to the powers and duties specified in subsection A of this section, the Executive Director shall have the power and duty to issue temporary permits and regular permits excluding all permits from sensitive sole source aquifers that meet all the requirements of Titles 27A and 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes and other considerations required by law and that have not been the subject of a protest from an interested party.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

Passed the Senate the 5th day of May, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of April, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_