Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1341
Version: INT
Request No.: 2691
Author: Sen. Howard
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Bill Analysis

SB 1341 directs the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to conduct spot inspections, audits, or other testing as needed to maintain adequate determinations of basin measurements, yields, and sustainability of a critical groundwater management area (CGMA) as well as establish reasonable and defensible hydrologic thresholds that could inform management of permitted groundwater in a CGMA. Additionally, if a field agent of the Board recommends that an active management plan be implemented for a CGMA, the measure directs the Board to determine whether the CGMA shall be placed under the plan. The plan may include placing an agent at the CGMA, placing a moratorium on new permits, active metering, well placement and spacing for new permits, programing to allocate resources for the modernization and remediation of impacted basins, and implementing metering or monitoring measures of senior permit holders. The measure also states that no later than November 1, 2027, all water permits for water usage that are in effect shall have metering or measuring of the water source in place to ensure sustainable use.

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