

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2821

By: Kendrix of the House

3 and

4 Bergstrom of the Senate

5
6 An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S.
7 2021, Section 245, which relates to the Oklahoma
8 Climatological Survey; re-creating the Survey; and
9 modifying the termination date.

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

11 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 245, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 245. A. The Climate Office of the State of Oklahoma
14 located at Norman, Oklahoma, shall be under the direction and
15 supervision of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma
16 and shall be known as the Oklahoma Climatological Survey. The
17 Oklahoma Climatological Survey is hereby re-created, to continue
18 until July 1, ~~2023~~ 2026, in accordance with the provisions of the
19 Oklahoma Sunset Law.

20 B. The director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey shall be
21 appointed by the Board and shall either serve as the state
22 climatologist or appoint another current employee of the Survey to
23 serve as state climatologist. The salary of the director shall be
24 determined by the Board.

1 C. The Oklahoma Climatological Survey shall have for its object
2 and duties the following:

3 1. To acquire, archive, process and disseminate, in the most
4 cost-effective way possible, all climate and weather information
5 which is or could be of value to policy and decision makers in the
6 state;

7 2. To act as the representative of the state in all
8 climatological and meteorological matters both within and outside
9 the state when requested to do so by the legislative or executive
10 branches of the state government;

11 3. To prepare, publish and disseminate periodic regular climate
12 summaries for those individuals, agencies and organizations whose
13 activities are related to the welfare of the state and are affected
14 by climate and weather;

15 4. To conduct and report on studies of climate and weather
16 phenomena of significant socioeconomic importance to the state;

17 5. To evaluate the significance of natural and man-made,
18 deliberate and inadvertent changes or modifications in important
19 features of the climate and weather affecting the state, and to
20 report this information to those agencies and organizations in the
21 state who are likely to be affected by such changes or
22 modifications; and

23 6. To maintain and operate the Oklahoma Mesonet, a
24 statewide environmental monitoring network which is overseen by the

1 Mesonet Steering Committee, comprised of representatives of the
2 University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University according to
3 its Memorandum of Agreement. The director of the Oklahoma
4 Climatological Survey shall be accountable for executing the
5 policies of the Mesonet Steering Committee.

6 D. The director is authorized to certify copies as being
7 authentic reproductions of weather records held in the state.

8 E. The director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey shall
9 present a report each year to the Board of Regents of the University
10 of Oklahoma showing the progress, condition and all other
11 information which the Board may deem necessary.

12 Passed the House of Representatives the 7th day of March, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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