OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which it was referred

SJR 35

By: Sparks et al of the Senate and McCall et al of the House

Title: Constitutional amendment; creating Oklahoma Vision Fund. Ballot title.

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.

SENATE CONFEREES:

Allen
Bass
Bergstrom
Bice
Boggs
Brocheen
Brooks
Brown
Dahm
Daniels
David
Dossett
Dugger
Fields
Floyd
Fry
Griffin
Ikley-Freeman
Jech
Kidd
Leewright
Matthews
McCormany
Murdock

NEWHOUSE

Paxton
Pederson
Pemberton
Pittman
Pugh
Quinn
Rader
Rosino
Scott
Sharp
Shaw
Wayne
Silk
Simpson
Smalley
Sparks
Standridge
Stanislaski
Sykes
Thompson
Yen

HOUSE CONFEREES:

Conference Committee on Rules

Senate Action Date House Action Date
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 35

By: Sparks, Schulz, Treat, Thompson, David, Floyd, Matthews, Leewright, Bice, Shaw, Rader, Fry, Dossett, Ikley-freeman, Brooks, Pittman, Bass, Murdock, Silk, Smalley, McCartney, Pederson, Bergstrom, Daniels, Boggs, Holt, Fields, Simpson, Stanislawski, Griffin, Yen, Dugger, Jech, Rosino, Kidd, Sykes, Paxton, Pugh, Allen and Standridge of the Senate

and

McCall, Martin, Montgomery and Lepak of the House

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma by adding a new Section 44 to Article X; creating Oklahoma Vision Fund; providing for apportionment of monies and certain deposits to Oklahoma Vision Fund; providing for certain apportionment of principal amount to the General Revenue Fund; prescribing investment standard; authorizing investment of monies in certain equity securities; providing exception to restrictions contained in Section 15 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution; limiting use of certain monies for debt
service of state or local government entities; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma by adding a new Section 44 to Article X thereof, to read as follows:

Section 44. A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a trust fund to be designated the "Oklahoma Vision Fund" to support the operation of state government and to provide tax relief.

B. The Oklahoma Vision Fund principal shall consist of:

1. Any amounts appropriated by the Legislature;

2. Any other deposits and apportionments from other sources as may be provided by law;

3. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and for each fiscal year thereafter, five percent (5%) of total actual revenue from the gross production tax on oil and gas which percentage shall increase in increments of two-tenths percentage points each year thereafter; and

4. Investment and income returns from the fund principal.
C. Four percent (4%) of the average annual amount of the principal of the Oklahoma Vision Fund for the immediately preceding five (5) complete fiscal years, shall be apportioned to the General Revenue Fund not later than September 30 each year. The State Treasurer shall determine the balance of the Oklahoma Vision Fund as of June 30 each year and for the preceding five (5) years in order to apportion the required amount to the General Revenue Fund each fiscal year as required by this subsection. The deposit required by this subsection shall not begin before July 1, 2020.

D. The balance of the Oklahoma Vision Fund shall be invested by the State Treasurer in a manner consistent with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims and by diversifying the investments of the Oklahoma Vision Fund so as to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so.

E. The Oklahoma Vision Fund shall not be subject to the restriction of Section 15 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution with regard to investment of public funds and the monies in the Oklahoma Vision Fund may be invested in equity of lawful for-profit business enterprises, whether denominated as shares, stock, membership interests or similar equity securities.
F. Not more than five percent (5%) of the monies in the Oklahoma Vision Fund may be used for debt service payments due on bonds or other financing instruments issued by the State of Oklahoma, counties, municipalities, authorities, commissions, political subdivisions or any other governmental entities within the State of Oklahoma, subject to such restrictions as may be provided by law.

SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. ____  State Question No. ____

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

This measure would create a new fund called the "Oklahoma Vision Fund" in the Oklahoma Constitution. Money could be appropriated to the Fund. Beginning July 1, 2020, five percent (5%) of gross production taxes on both oil and gas would be deposited into the Fund. After that fiscal year, the percentage would increase by two-tenths percentage points each year. Other monies could be deposited into the Fund if provided by law. The State Treasurer would deposit four percent (4%) of the principal amount of the Fund into the State General Revenue Fund each year. The Fund would be subject to an investment standard known as the prudent investor rule. The Fund could be invested in stocks and similar
securities. Not more than five percent (5%) of the monies in the Fund could be used for payment of debt obligations issued by the State of Oklahoma, state government entities or local government entities.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES  

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO  

SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall, immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.