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voluntary environmental cleanup programs;

SB875 by Sen. Gilmer Capps, D-Snyder, and Rep. Randy Beutler, D-Elk City, providing additional powers and duties to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;**SB883** (title restored) by Sen. Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta, and Rep. M.C. Leist, D-Morris, establishing and clarifying guidelines for municipalities to deal with environmental problems;**SB911** (committee substitute) by Sen. Easley and Rep. Rice, defining "economically at-risk wells;"**SB974** (committee substitute) by Sen. Easley and Rep. Leist, requiring transporters of waste, wastewater or sludge to develop and maintain manifests;**SB1000** by Sen. Easley and Rep. Rice, modifying language and statutory references related to the Retail Electric Supplier Certified Territory Act; and**SB1225** by Sen. Easley and Rep. Rice, adding definitions related to environment and natural resources and expanding the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission to include recipients of nonpoint pollution funds.No action was taken on **SB716** and **971**.

FROM: SHAWN ASHLEY

DATE: 03/26/96

SENATE COMMITTEE PASSES FREON BILL

■(GIT) A piece of legislation condoning the manufacture, sale and distribution of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), like the coolant Freon, passed the Senate Committee on Energy, Environmental Resources and Regulatory Affairs Thursday. **HB2155**, by Sen. Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta, also prohibits the Department of Environmental Quality from creating fines or penalties for its use.

Currently, federal law prohibits the sale and distribution of some CFCs.

"In the event that this bill moves forward," said Department of Environmental Quality Executive Director Mark Coleman, "put something in it to make sure that people understand that they would still be in violation of federal law."

An amendment to the bill, attempting to remove all references to the manufacturing of CFCs failed.

A narrow victory, the measure passed with a vote of 6 to 5.

Other measures addressed by the committee include **HB2197**, a committee substitute by Sen. Kevin Easley, D-Broken Arrow. The measure modifies language relating to the Rural Water, Sewer, Gas and Solid Waste Management District Act, expanding municipality limits to include any area included within the boundaries of any city, town or village as a result of incorporation, annexation, population growth or otherwise. The measure was given a do pass motion.

HB2408, a committee substitute by Sen. J. Berry Harrison, D-Fairfax, states that no district shall export water or gas outside the state without the consent of the Legislature. The measure, with a stricken title, received a do pass motion.

HB2416, by Easley, allows an equal number of years of employment with the Corporation Commission as a field inspector to qualify an applicant for employment with the Conservation Commission for positions requiring experience in the production of oil and gas. The measure's title was stricken and it was given a do pass motion.

HB2856, by Easley, creates the Oklahoma Underground Storage Tank Regulation Act and creates a separate program for its implementation. After having its enacting clause stricken, the measure received a do pass motion.

HB2857, by Easley, provides that the production of oil from each marginal well in the state that produces less than three barrels per day shall be exempt from gross production tax. After having its enacting clause stricken, the measure was given a do pass motion.

HB2874, by Easley, changes the membership of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board. An amendment to the measure created an alternate refund mechanism, making it easier for customers to receive refunds. The bill was given a do pass motion.

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