This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act".

§52-288.2. Definitions.
As used in the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act, Section 288.1 et seq. of this title:
1. "Board" means the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board;
2. "Person" means any individual, group of individuals, or any partnership, corporation, association, cooperative, or employee thereof, or any other entity;
3. "Independent producer" means any person:
   a. who produces oil or natural gas and is not engaged in refining or marketing of such products, or 
   b. who derives a majority of his or her oil- or natural gas-related income from working interest;
4. "Major oil company" means any person who produces oil or natural gas in the State of Oklahoma and who is a retailer as defined in IRS Code Sec. 613A (d)(2) or a refiner as defined in Sec. 613A (d)(4) of the Code or is a subsidiary, directly or indirectly, of a company that is classified as a major oil company as defined herein; and
5. "Qualified independent producer association" means an entity in existence as of January 1, 1992, that is organized and operating within the state, a majority of whose governing body are independent producers and which represents the independent oil or natural gas industry on a statewide basis.

§52-288.3. Oklahoma Energy Resources Board.
There is hereby re-created until July 1, 2017, the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board which shall be subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law. The purpose of the Board is to coordinate a program designed to demonstrate to the general public the importance of the Oklahoma oil and natural gas exploration and production industry, to encourage the wise and efficient use of energy, to promote environmentally sound production methods and technologies, to develop existing supplies of Oklahoma’s oil and natural gas resources, to support research and educational activities concerning the oil and natural gas exploration and production industry and to cause remediation of historical oilfield environmental problems.
§52-288.4. Board - Composition - Qualifications - Terms - Vacancies - Additional members - First meeting - Compensation and expenses.

A. The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board shall be composed of at least eighteen (18) members. The eighteen members shall be independent oil or natural gas producers, or representatives of major oil companies which do business in the state, six to be appointed by the Governor, six to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and six to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Governor, President Pro Tempore and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall make appointments of independent producers from a list of names of independent producers which do business in the state submitted by qualified independent producer associations.

B. The members of the Board shall:
1. Be at least twenty-five (25) years of age; and
2. Have at least five (5) years of active experience in the oil or natural gas industry.

C. The initial term of office for independent producer members of the Board shall be as follows: six members for one (1) year, six members for two (2) years and six members for three (3) years.

For the initial appointments of independent producers, each appointing authority shall make two appointments for one-year terms, two appointments for two-year terms and two appointments for three-year terms. Thereafter, the terms of the independent producer members shall be for three (3) years.

D. The six independent producer members of the Board whose initial term of office is for one (1) year shall serve until October 1, 1993, at which time their terms shall expire and will be replaced by the members appointed to three-year terms under subsection E of this section.

E. On October 1, 1993, six members shall be appointed to the Board who represent major oil companies which do business in the state, two to be appointed by the Governor, two to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. After October 1, 1993, the Board shall be composed of eighteen (18) members, twelve of which shall be independent producers and six shall be representatives of major oil companies.

F. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of office in the same manner as the original appointment. The appointed members may be removed from office by a majority vote of the three appointing authorities in a manner as provided by law.

G. After October 1, 1993, the independent producer and major oil company members of the Board appointed pursuant to subsection A of this section may by majority vote appoint a maximum of three representatives from each of the following producer-related areas to serve as members of the Board: one member from a royalty owner association and two members representing crude oil purchasing companies. These additional members
shall have full voting rights and privileges and will serve three-year terms. They may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the independent producer and major oil company members of the Board appointed pursuant to subsection A of this section.

H. The Board shall at its first meeting elect one of its members as chairperson, who shall preside over meetings of the Board and perform such other duties as may be required by the Board. The first meeting of the Board shall be called by the Governor.

I. No member of the Board shall receive a salary for duties performed as a member of the Board however, members are eligible to receive reimbursement for expenses and travel reimbursement as provided for in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

J. Members serving on the Board shall be eligible to serve on any other state board or commission if such member is otherwise qualified to hold such appointed office, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes.


§52-288.5. Board - Powers, duties and responsibilities.
The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:
1. To administer and enforce the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act;
2. To establish an office for the Board within the State of Oklahoma;
3. To elect a chairperson and whatever other officers may be necessary to direct operations of the Board;
4. To employ personnel as shall be deemed necessary to carry out the purpose and provisions of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act, including but not limited to an attorney to provide legal assistance to the Board, and to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;
5. To establish and administer the Energy Resources Revolving Fund;
6. To approve or disapprove the budget of the Board;
7. To promulgate rules as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act;
8. To enter into contracts or agreements for studies, research projects, experimental work, supplies or other services to carry out the purposes of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act, and incur those expenses necessary to carry out those purposes. Any such contract or agreement shall provide that:
   a. the person entering the contract or agreement on behalf of the Board shall develop and submit to the Board a plan or project together with a budget or budgets that shows estimated costs to be incurred for the plan or project, and
   b. the person entering the contract or agreement shall keep
accurate records of all of its transactions, account for funds received and expended, and make periodic reports to the Board of activities conducted, and such other reports as the Board may require;

9. To keep accurate records of all financial transactions performed pursuant to the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act. These records shall be subject to an annual audit, as defined by paragraph 4 of subsection B of Section 212 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, by an independent auditor and an annual report shall be compiled and presented to the Governor;

10. To cooperate with any private, local, state or national commission, organization, agency or group and to make contracts and agreements for joint programs beneficial to the oil industry;

11. To accept donations, grants, contributions and gifts from any public or private source and deposit such in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund;

12. To approve or disapprove the investment of any monies in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund; and

13. To keep an accurate record of all assessments collected.


§52-288.5A. Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources.

A. There is hereby created the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources which shall be under the direction and supervision of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board and shall be for the purpose of encouraging new processes or technological advancements to sustain the oil and natural gas industry in the future for the benefit of the citizens of this state and for advancing activities to support marginally producing oil and gas wells.

B. 1. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources shall be made up of not less than twelve but not more than eighteen members. The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board shall select one member of the Board to serve as the chair of the Committee. Except as otherwise provided, members of the Committee shall be appointed by the chair of the Committee and approved by a majority of the Board.

2. The Secretary of Energy or a designee shall serve as a member of the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma’s Energy Resources. The Secretary of Energy shall select one member of the Committee who shall currently be serving on the Oklahoma Energy Initiative Board on behalf of the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, the University of Tulsa or Oklahoma City University.

3. Of the remaining members of the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma’s Energy Resources at least:

   a. four members shall be independent oil and gas operators, of which at least one shall be from each of the four Corporation Commission regulatory districts as they existed
on January 1, 2013, and each shall have operations in the district they represent,
b. one member shall be an independent oil and gas operator from Osage County and shall have operations in Osage County,
c. one member shall be an independent oil and gas operator selected from a list of operators submitted by the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association,
d. one member shall be an oil and gas operator selected from a list of operators submitted by the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association,
e. one member shall be an Oklahoma oil and gas royalty owner selected from a list of names submitted by the Oklahoma Mineral Owners Association, and
f. one member shall be an Oklahoma oil and gas royalty owner selected from a list of names submitted by the Oklahoma affiliate of the National Association of Royalty Owners.

4. With the exception of the Secretary of Energy or the designee of the Secretary, Committee members shall serve for three-year terms and may be removed from the Committee by a majority vote of the Committee with or without cause. The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board may establish any additional qualifications, requirements or conditions it deems appropriate for members of the Committee which are consistent with the provisions of this section. The chair of the Committee, with the approval of the Board, shall strive to select representatives of all facets of the oil and natural gas industry, and the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, the University of Tulsa, and Oklahoma City University, in addition to any other interested higher education institutions and governmental entities charged with duties and authority over relevant areas.

5. No member of the Committee shall receive a salary for duties performed as a member of the Committee; however, members may be eligible to receive reimbursement for necessary and actual travel expenses as provided for in the State Travel Reimbursement Act if approved by the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board.

6. Members appointed to serve on the Committee shall be eligible to serve on any other state board or commission if the member is otherwise qualified to hold such appointed office, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

C. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma’s Energy Resources is authorized to accept appropriations, donations, grants, contributions and gifts from any public or private source for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this act. The Committee shall deposit such funds in the revolving fund created in Section 288.5B of this title.

D. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma’s Energy Resources, with the advice and consent of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board, is authorized to promulgate rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this act.
§52-288.5B. Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources Revolving Fund.

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources to be designated the "Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies transferred to the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources to further the purposes of this act from any public appropriations and donations, grants, contributions or gifts from any public or private source. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources for the purpose of encouraging and funding research and development of new technologies in the oil and natural gas industry and funding activities to support marginally producing oil and gas wells. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.


§52-288.5C. Transferring the authority of the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil - terminating terms - transferring funds.

A. Effective July 1, 2013, all duties, assets and obligations of the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells created pursuant to Section 700 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be transferred to the authority of the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources created pursuant to Section 288.5A of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. Effective July 1, 2013, the terms of the members of the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells appointed pursuant to the provisions of Section 700 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be terminated.

C. Effective July 1, 2013, all unclassified full-time-equivalent, part-time, and temporary employees of the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells shall be terminated. Employees shall be paid for any accrued annual leave and may be eligible for other benefits as provided by law.

D. Activities and functions previously performed by the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells shall be under the responsibility of the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources or a successor committee as provided by law. The Committee may organize itself, create subcommittees or adopt procedures as deemed necessary and appropriate and consistent with the provisions of this act to implement the provisions of this act and carry out the functions and duties of the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells with the exception of making annual reports as required by paragraph 7 of
subsection A of Section 701 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

E. Monies remaining in the Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells Revolving Fund created in Section 705 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be transferred to the credit of the Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources Revolving Fund created in Section 288.5B of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes for use as provided in this act.

F. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources with the advice and consent of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board is authorized to promulgate any rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act. The Secretary of Energy may provide assistance as necessary to oversee the transfer of duties, assets and obligations pursuant to this act.

Added by Laws 2013, c. 199, § 1, eff. July 1, 2013.

§52-288.5D. Levying fee to fund Commission.

A. To fund the activities of the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources for the purpose of encouraging and funding research and development of new technologies in the oil and natural gas industry and to support activities relating to marginally producing oil and gas wells, a fee shall be levied in the amount of thirty-five hundredths of one cent ($0.0035) on each barrel of petroleum liquid and fifteen thousandths of one cent ($0.00015) on each one thousand (1,000) cubic feet (Mcf) of natural gas, including casinghead gas, produced from each well in the State of Oklahoma except for oil and gas production exempt from the payment of gross production tax pursuant to Section 1001 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. The fee levied by subsection A of this section shall be deducted from the proceeds of production by the person remitting gross production tax to the Oklahoma Tax Commission pursuant to Section 1001 et seq. of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The fee shall be remitted to the Tax Commission in the same manner as is provided by law for the payment of gross production tax. However, the fee shall not be required to be paid until the accrued amount due from any person required to remit the fee reaches Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00), except that any amount accrued for any calendar year shall be paid by January 31st of the following year. To defray the costs of receiving and depositing the fees levied by this section, the Tax Commission shall retain three percent (3%) of the fees received for deposit into the Oklahoma Tax Commission Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 113 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The remaining monies received by the Tax Commission pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources Revolving Fund created by Section 288.5B of this title.

C. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources shall be responsible for taking appropriate and necessary actions to collect any fee which is not paid or is not properly paid. The Tax Commission shall not be responsible for collecting any fee not remitted to the Tax Commission for deposit into the Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources Revolving Fund. The Tax Commission shall report to the Committee for
Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources any information it obtains regarding failure of any person to properly pay the fee due, including any documentation it may have of the failure.

D. The Tax Commission shall promulgate rules to establish procedures and forms necessary for the remittance of the fee levied by this section.

E. The Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources or any successor committee shall be prohibited from utilizing any funds collected through the assessment authorized by this section for the purpose of influencing governmental action or policy, with the exception of recommending amendments to Section 288.1 et seq. of this title. The Committee shall be authorized to respond to any request for information from the Governor, any members of the Legislature, any public official or state agency.


§52-288.5E. Refund of fees levied on production.

A. Any person subject to the fee levied by Section 703 of this title may request a refund as provided in this section of the fee paid on production for the preceding calendar year. Upon compliance with the provisions of this section and rules promulgated by the Committee for Sustaining Oklahoma's Energy Resources to implement this section, the Committee shall refund to each person requesting a refund the amount of the fee paid by or on behalf of such person during the preceding calendar year.

B. The request for a refund of the fee paid on production for the preceding calendar year must be made during the first three (3) calendar months following the calendar year for which the refund is requested. Failure to request a refund during this period shall terminate the right of any person to receive a refund for the fee paid on production for the preceding calendar year. The Committee shall give notice of the availability of the refund through press releases or such other means as it deems appropriate.

C. Each request for a refund shall be made in such manner and upon such forms as the Committee may require. Each person requesting a refund shall execute an affidavit stating the description of the producing property generating the production for which the refund is requested, the amount of the refund requested and that affiant was the owner of the production upon which the fee was levied. The Committee may require such other information and documentation reasonably necessary to verify the accuracy of the request for a refund.

§52-288.6. Board - Annual meeting - Regular meeting - Quorum - Additional meeting - Appointment of Director.
   A. There shall be an annual meeting of the Board at which the annual report and proposed budget will be presented. The Board shall, at the call of the chairperson, hold at least three other regular meetings each year. The chairperson shall establish the time, a manner and place of all meetings and shall provide notice of such meetings. A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. In addition, the Board shall determine the circumstances under which additional meetings of the Board may be held.

   B. The Board may appoint a Director who shall carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy Education and Marketing Act. The Director shall not be one of the appointed Board members.


§52-288.7. Energy Resources Revolving Fund.
   A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board to be designated the "Energy Resources Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations and shall consist of all monies received by the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board from assessments received and collected pursuant to Section 288.8A of this title, donations, grants, contributions and gifts from any public or private source. The Board may expend funds as provided for by law. Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

   B. Of the monies collected and not refunded pursuant to Sections 288.8A and 288.9A of this title, a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of said monies collected, including a prorated share of administrative costs incurred from the effective date of this act, and not subsequently refunded, shall be expended on environmental cleanup and remediation projects related to oil and gas pollution authorized by the Board from a priority list of projects submitted by the Corporation Commission or, only in the absence of Corporation Commission jurisdiction, projects submitted by other appropriate state agencies.

   C. None of the monies collected and not refunded pursuant to Sections 288.8A and 288.9A of this title shall be used for travel expenses of any member of the Oklahoma Legislature.


§52-288.8A. Levy of assessment - Remitting - Rate - Collection.
A. To fund the activities of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board, an assessment shall be levied in the amount of one-tenth of one percent (1/10 of 1%) of the gross revenues received at the wellhead for oil, natural gas, casinghead gas or condensate produced from each well in the State of Oklahoma except for production exempt from the payment of gross production tax pursuant to Section 1001 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. The assessment levied by subsection A of this section shall be deducted from the proceeds of production by the person remitting gross production tax to the Oklahoma Tax Commission pursuant to Section 1001 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Such assessment shall be remitted to the Oklahoma Tax Commission in the same manner as is provided by law for the payment of gross production tax. Provided, the person remitting the assessment may remit cumulative amounts of Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00) or less quarterly. To defray the costs of receiving and depositing the assessments levied by this section, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall retain Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000.00) per month of the assessments received for deposit in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 113 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The remaining monies received by the Oklahoma Tax Commission pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund.

C. The Board shall be responsible for taking appropriate legal actions to collect any assessment which is not paid or is not properly paid. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall not be responsible for collecting any assessment not remitted to the Oklahoma Tax Commission for deposit in the Energy Resources Revolving Fund. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall report to the Board any information it obtains regarding failure of any person to properly pay the assessment due, including any documentation it may have of such failure.


§52-288.9A. Refunds.

A. Any person subject to the assessment levied by Section 288.8A of this title may request a refund as provided in this section of the assessment paid on production for the preceding calendar year. Upon compliance with the provisions of this section and rules promulgated by the Board to implement this section, the Board shall refund to each person requesting a refund of the amount of the assessment paid by or on behalf of such person during the preceding calendar year. Refunds will include interest earned at the rate equal to the average United States Treasury bill rate of the preceding calendar year as certified by the State Treasurer.

B. The request for a refund of the assessment paid on production for the preceding calendar year must be made during the first three (3)
calendar months following the calendar year for which the refund is requested. Failure to request a refund during this period shall terminate the right of any person to receive a refund for the assessment paid on production for the preceding calendar year. The Board shall give notice of the availability of the refund through press releases, paid advertisements placed in the newspaper with the largest general circulation in each county in the state and such other means as it deems appropriate.

C. Each person requesting a refund shall execute an affidavit showing the amount of refund requested, and the affiant was the owner of the production for which the refund is requested. Each person requesting a refund shall submit supporting evidence demonstrating the gross revenues, net to the person's revenue interest, received for oil, natural gas, casinghead gas or condensate in Oklahoma. The Board may verify, principally through the use of audits, the accuracy of the request for refund. In verifying the accuracy of a request for refund, the Board shall exercise its authority in a manner that will reduce, to the extent practicable and appropriate, the burden on persons providing the information to the Board.

D. No company or person who requests a refund under this section shall be eligible to serve or have a representative serve as a member of the Board.


§52-288.11. Investment of funds - Utilizing funds to influence governmental action or policy.

A. The Board may invest, pending disbursement, funds collected through assessments only in obligations of the United States or any agency thereof, in general obligations of any state, in any interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit of a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System, or in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.

B. The Board shall be prohibited from utilizing any funds collected through the assessment procedure outlined in Section 8 of this act, for the purpose of influencing governmental action or policy, with the exception of recommending amendments to this act, and for the purpose of obtaining state or federal funding for the activities of the Sustaining Oklahoma’s Energy Resources Advisory Committee.