

Governor Stitt Signed \$20 Million Drought Assistance Bill

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK October 4, 2022 – Today, Governor Stitt signed HB 1006 which appropriates an additional \$20 million to the Emergency Drought Commission for funding assistance to Oklahoma’s farmers and ranchers. The Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Association (OCA) is extremely grateful to the Oklahoma Legislature and Governor Stitt for prioritizing this funding assistance on an emergency basis.

“The 2022 drought has drastically impacted Oklahoma’s beef cattle ranchers with negative effects for many years to come,” said Michael Kelsey, Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Executive Vice President. “OCA estimates Oklahoma’s beef cow herd to be at least 10% lower because of the drought with many ranchers selling significant portions of their cowherd. Without any foreseeable rainfall relief, more cattle will be sold as hay supplies are dwindling and water sources are drying up.”

The Emergency Drought Commission has met twice to assemble a list of strategies that provide immediate and long-term relief to Oklahoma farmers and ranchers.

“The Commission has done an excellent job of receiving input and feedback while creating a proactive approach to the disbursement of the assistance funds,” added Kelsey.

Oklahoma farmers and ranchers should look to their county Conservation District office for an application to receive assistance from this fund.

The Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Association is the trusted voice of the Oklahoma Cattle Industry. OCA is the only voice that speaks solely for the cattlemen of Oklahoma and represents beef producers in all 77 counties across the state. The OCA officers, board of directors and membership encourages you to join us in our advocacy efforts to ensure less government intervention, lower taxes and a better bottom line. For more information about OCA membership, the theft reward program or activities call 405-235-4391 or visit www.okcattlemen.org.

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