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2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS

Welcome to the first issue of the Oklahoma Municipal League's 2022 weekly Legislative Advocate. We hope it will give municipal officials insight into the legislative process and the importance of speaking with a collective, unified voice to obtain a positive influence in the Legislature.

With nearly 2,300 bills filed in the Oklahoma Legislature this year this session looks to be one of significant interest to municipal governments. There are bipartisan proposals to remove the sales tax on groceries, focus on medical marijuana, election reform, numerous preemption measures, and tax policy.

Governor Kevin Stitt unveiled his proposal for the removal of the grocery sales tax, along with his other priorities in his <u>2022 State of the State</u> address Monday, Feb. 7th. Your OML Governmental Affairs team has combed through each piece of legislation filed and we are working diligently to contact legislators and advocate municipal priorities on these bills.

We will continue to provide updates in the OML Advocate each Friday throughout the session. If you have questions at any time, please contact our office.

Please pass along any concerns, ideas, or correspondence about legislation you have to Daniel McClure, OML Deputy General Counsel and Director of Governmental Affairs at Daniel@oml.org. or 405-528-7515.

GROCERY SALES TAX PROPOSALS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE

Not only did Governor Kevin Stitt announce the proposal to eliminate the sales tax on groceries, but there are several bills on both sides of the aisle that make the same recommendations. <u>The OML Governmental Affairs team has had numerous meetings</u> with legislators and staff and the overwhelming consensus is to eliminate the state tax while maintaining and protecting <u>municipal sales tax on groceries</u>. Yesterday, Rep. Emily Virgin's (D-Norman) <u>HB 3621</u> passed the House A&B Revenue and Taxation Subcommittee. The bill phases out the state's portion of the four and half percent (4.5%) sales tax on groceries over a three (3) year period. Starting July 1, 2022, and ending no later than June 30, 2023, the tax is reduced to three percent (3%) of the gross receipts upon which the tax is levied; and starting July 1, 2023, and ending not later than June 30, 2024, one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the gross receipts upon which the tax is levied. The exemption shall not apply to any county or municipal sales tax imposed pursuant to the law by a county or municipality. The bill now moves to the full House A&B Committee.

Sen. Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) has filed <u>SB 1495</u> which also creates a sales tax exemption for the sale of groceries. The measure provides that the exemption shall not apply to the sale of alcohol, tobacco, or some prepared food. Certain prepared foods as outlined in the measure are eligible for the exemption. <u>The exemption shall not apply to any sales tax levied by a city or town, county, or any other jurisdiction in the state</u>. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and full Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 1473 by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) like Rep. Virgin's bill, reduces the state sales tax on groceries in phases. Beginning January 1, 2023, groceries it phases down the sales tax to three and fifty-hundredths percent (3.5% on the gross receipts; for calendar year 2024, two and fifty-hundredths percent (2.5%) of the gross receipts and for calendar year 2025, one and fifty-hundredths percent (1.5%) of the gross receipts. It also adds definitions on bottled water, candy, dietary supplement, food and food ingredients, groceries, and prepared food. The exemption does not apply to any sales tax levied by a city or town or a county, or any other jurisdiction in this state. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and full Senate Appropriations Committee.

HB 3685 by Rep. Kevin McDugle (R-Broken Arrow) exempts the retail sale of food and food ingredients, sold for human consumption off the premises were sold from sales tax. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is required to promulgate any necessary rules to implement the provisions of this section in accordance with the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement. The bill has been assigned to the House A&B Revenue and Taxation Subcommittee and full House A&B Committee.

PUSH TO TAKE AWAY LOCAL CONTROL CONTINUES

Protecting local control is one of OML's primary focuses when it comes to advocating for cities and towns. Our friends at 23rd and Lincoln sometimes see it differently. There are numerous bills filed that would take away the ability for you to regulate what happens in your community. Those regulations come in the form of building codes for homeless camps, flags, bathrooms, firearms, and many other issues.

Here are just a few of the bills we are working:

Firearms/SportsmanHearingProtectionAct/Preemption:HB 2982by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. DewaynePemberton (R-Muskogee)creates the Sportsman HearingProtection Act. This billrequires any firearm suppressor created in the State of

Oklahoma to have the words "Made in Oklahoma" clearly stamped on the firearm suppressor.

The bill passed the House State Powers Committee by a **vote** of 4 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Firearms/Preemption: HB 2984 by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) prohibits any peace officer, state employee, or employee of a political subdivision from enforcing, assisting in the enforcement of, or otherwise cooperating in the enforcement of a federal ban on firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition and is also prohibited from participating in any federal enforcement action implementing a federal ban on firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition. Nothing in this act may be construed to prohibit or limit a peace officer, state employee, or employee of a political subdivision may cooperate, communicate or collaborate with a federal, state, county or municipal agency for the primary purpose is not: a. law enforcement activity related to a federal, state, county or municipal ban on firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition, and b. the investigation of a violation of a federal, state, county or municipal ban on firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition.

The State of Oklahoma and any political subdivision is prohibited from reducing or eliminating any funding or budget from a county sheriff's office or municipal police department for a. refusing to obey or enforce any order which violates the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, Section 26 of Article II of the Constitution of Oklahoma or the peace officer oath of a peace officer or declaring any political subdivision of this state as a Second Amendment sanctuary.

The State of Oklahoma and any political subdivision of this state shall be prohibited from terminating or retaliating against any peace officer who refuses to obey or enforce any order which violates the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, Section 26 of Article II of the Constitution of Oklahoma, or the peace officer oath of the peace officer.

The bill passed the House State Powers Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Preemption: <u>HB 3491</u> by Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) prohibits a state agency or political subdivision from adopting or enforcing a state or regional program to regulate greenhouse gas emissions for the purpose of addressing changes in atmospheric temperature without specific legislative authorization, including, but not limited to: 1) State plans developed pursuant to 42 U.S.C., Section 7402, 7410, 7411, 7415, or 7545; 2) low-carbon fuel standards; 3) plans or programs enabling regulation or mobile stationary sources, greenhouse gas taxes or fees, or greenhouse gas trading; or 4) state or regional programs prompted by the participation of the US in international treaties or executive agreements or interstate compacts or agreements.

The bill passed the House State Powers Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Preemption/Vaccines and Masks: <u>SB 352</u> by Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) is new law prohibiting the state or political subdivisions from compelling or coercing any person to undergo any unwanted medical procedure including, an immunization, to use any unwanted medical device or to wear any face covering. There is a penalty provision and exceptions.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate General Government Committee.

Preemption/Public Restrooms: <u>SB 1249</u> by Sen. Jake Merrick (R-Yukon) The bill as written prevents family changing stations. The bill directs public restrooms and changing facilities to be designated with the identity that corresponds with his or her biological sex. The bill prohibits municipalities from adopting an ordinance to the contrary.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate General Government Committee.

Oklahoma Consumer Energy Choice/Statewide Concern: SB 1352 by Sen. Zack Taylor (R-Shawnee) and Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) creates the Oklahoma Consumer Energy Choice Act. Energy source is defined to mean any fuel or power source used to power an engine including but not limited to any of the following: aviation fuel, biofuel, compressed natural gas, diesel, electricity to be utilized for the charging of electric vehicles, gasoline, hydrogen, gas distillates, liquified petroleum gas, and renewable diesel. A city, town or county is prohibited from adopting an ordinance, rule, or code which limits consumer access to an energy source or that results in the de facto prohibition of a wholesaler, retailer, or related infrastructure that is necessary to provide consumer access to a specific energy source within the jurisdiction of a city, town, or county. For the purposes of promoting commerce and the equitable treatment of the citizens of this state, limitations of consumer access to an energy source by any city, town, county, or subdivision is declared to be a statewide concern and is prohibited pursuant to subsection C of this section of law.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Energy Committee.

Preemption/Homeless Camps: SB 1560 by Sen. Rob Standridge (R-Norman) limits locations where homeless people may sleep/camp and provides for municipal law enforcement to enforce the ban. The bill prohibits a political subdivision from designating a property to be used by homeless individuals to camp unless the local housing authority with authorized jurisdiction approves a plan. The bill creates a misdemeanor for persons to camp on a public place without the effective consent of the officer or agency of a political subdivision having the legal duty or authority to manage the public place. The plan submitted for approval under this law shall describe each of the following with respect to the proposed property: 1) the availability of local health care for proposed new campers, including access to Medicaid and mental health services; 2) the availability of indigent services for proposed new campers; 3) the availability of reasonably affordable public transportation; 4) local law enforcement resources in the area; and 5) the steps the applicant has taken to coordinate with the local mental health authority to provide for any proposed new campers. The local housing authority may not approve a plan if the authority determines that a property proposed is a public park.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate General Government Committee.

BILLS ON THE MOVE

Veterans Sales Tax Exemption/Vehicle: <u>HB 3050</u> by Rep. Tommy Hardin (R-Madill) and Sen. Frank Simpson (R-Ardmore) removes the motor vehicle sales from the limit on the veteran sales tax exemption for one hundred percent (100%) disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. The exemption may only be claimed for one vehicle every three years, unless the vehicle is a replacement for a vehicle that was destroyed or totaled.

The bill passed the House A&B Finance -Revenue and Taxation Subcommittee by a <u>vote</u> of 9 to 0. The bill heads to the full House A&B Committee.

Tort Claims/Employees/Qualified Immunity: <u>HB 3276</u> by Rep. Justin Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) prohibits any law enforcement of the state or political subdivision of the state subject to a claim brought under the Governmental Tort Claims Act (GTCA) are not liable for monetary damages if immunity secured by law was not clearly established at the time of the alleged deprivation. A plaintiff who brings a claim under GTCA alleging a violation of the law must state with particularity the circumstances constituting the violation of the law at the time of the alleged violation. Failure to plead a plausible violation or failure to plead that the law clearly established at the time of the violation shall result in dismissal with prejudice. Any decision by the district court denying qualified immunity shall be immediately appealable. The bill was amended in committee to remove employee and only focus on "law enforcement".

The bill passed the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 4 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Public Lands/Easements: <u>HB 3280</u> by Rep. Justin Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) limits the amount of public land owned by the State of Oklahoma, state agencies and federal government to no more than ten percent (10%) of the total land in the state. It requires all easements granted to or reserved by the federal government for land in the state be for a period of thirty (30) years or less.

The bill passed the House State Powers Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Law Enforcement/Cockfighting: <u>HB 3283</u> by Rep. Justin Humphrey (R-Lane) reduces the penalty for cockfighting from a felony to a misdemeanor. The first conviction brings a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). For a second conviction, the person shall be punished by a fine not exceeding One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). For a third or subsequent conviction, the person shall be punished by a fine not exceeding Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).

The bill passed the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 0. The bill heads to the full House.

Law Enforcement/Reports of Convictions/Tribal Courts: <u>HB 3501</u> by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) directs the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to recognize and act upon a report of conviction in a court of any federally recognized Indian tribe within the geographical boundaries of the State of Oklahoma or a court of the United States in the same manner it acts upon any report of conviction from an Oklahoma state or municipal court. Any report of conviction submitted to DPS shall be submitted using a format approved by DPS and shall include the full name of the offender as it appears on the driver license, the number of the driver license and the penalty imposed. The bill passed the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 0. The bill heads to the full House.

Medical Marijuana/Law Enforcement Programs: HB 3530 Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) establishes programs and provide funding, from the available fiscal resources of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA), to support county sheriffs to enforce the requirements of state law with respect to the commercial growth of medical marijuana or other related business activity for which a license is required pursuant to the provisions of governing production, cultivation, law the transportation, distribution, sale, or other actions related to medical marijuana.

The bill passed the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 4 to 1. The bill heads to the full House.

Mental Health/First Responders: <u>HB 3899</u> by Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) modifies situations in which mental injury or illness is a compensable injury. This physical injury limitation shall not apply to any victim of a crime of violence or to a police officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, or any other employee of an emergency service who is likely to be among the first people to arrive at and assist at the scene of an emergency and who suffers a mental injury or illness related to duties performed responding to the emergency.

The bill passed the House Judiciary – Civil Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full House.

Law Enforcement/Asset Forfeiture: HB 3907 by Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) directs the Attorney General (AG) to establish and maintain a case tracking system and searchable public website that shall include certain information about property seized and forfeited under state law, and to assign the responsibility to report each element to the relevant law enforcement agencies along with certain information about the property seized and forfeited. The bill requires the Attorney General to make a report for the Governor, Speaker, and President Pro Tempore summarizing the seizure activity in the state. If the law enforcement agency fails to submit a report to the AG within thirty (30) days after the report is due and there is no good cause for such failure, the law enforcement agency is subject to a civil fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or the equivalent of onequarter of the forfeiture proceeds received by the law enforcement agency, whichever is greater.

The bill passed the House Judiciary – Civil Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full House.

Sales Tax Exemption/Medical Marijuana/Ag Land: <u>SB</u> <u>1101</u> by Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) amends the definition of agriculture products to not include the growing, harvesting and processing of marijuana as defined in Section 927.2 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 9 to 2. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Open Records/Confidential Information: <u>SB 1159</u> by Sen. Roger Thompson (R-Okemah) permits the Commissioners of the Land Office to keep certain information related to business and marketing confidential.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 8 to 2. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Firearms/Schools Carry Policy: <u>SB 1175</u> by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) requires school district boards of education to submit to the State Department of Education policies to implement a statutory provision that permits the boards to designate school personnel who have been issued a handgun license pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act to attend an armed security guard training program or a reserve peace officer certification program, as provided for in Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, provided and developed by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET). It makes the department the repository for the policies. It requires the department or the school district to make the policies available to the public upon request.

The bill passed the Senate Education Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 13 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Veterans ID Designation: <u>SB 1177</u> by Sen. Frank Simpson (R-Ardmore) directs the Department of Public Safety (DPS)to include a numeric designation indicating a veteran's 100% disability rating granted by the Department of Veteran Affairs on the veteran's driver license. additionally, the surviving spouse of a 100% disable veteran who has not remarried is entitled to receive a driver license or identification card indicating his or her status as an eligible current spouse or an eligible surviving spouse who has not remarried entitled to the disabled veteran sales tax exemption. The label on the driver license shall serve as confirmation that the veteran or surviving spouse is entitled to the benefits afforded such persons as well as the sales tax exemption. The measure also directs the Department of Public Safety and Department of Veteran Affairs to implement a technology-based information exchange process allowing the Department of Public Safety and motor agents to validate an applicant's claim of veteran status, veteran disability status, status as a current spouse of an eligible disabled veteran, or status as an eligible surviving spouse of an eligible deceased disabled veteran.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 11 to 0. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Service Animals: <u>SB 1223</u> by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) creates a crime for any person who is not an individual with a disability or is not trained to assist individuals with disabilities, who uses a service animal to gain treatment or benefits as an individual with a disability. Upon conviction, the individual shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a **vote** of 8 to 4. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Driver License: <u>SB 1237</u> by Sen. Tom Dugger (R-Stillwater) and Rep. John Talley (R-Stillwater) allows a physician, law enforcement officer or direct family member to report the physical or mental ailment or condition before issuing or renewing any driver licenses. The reporting entity shall remain anonymous if it is a direct family member.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 7 to 5. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Sales Tax Refund Claim: <u>SB 1301</u> by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) allows for a claim for refund of sales taxes erroneously paid to only be made to the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) if a vendor refuses to honor the proof of eligibility issued by OTC for the exemption authorized, and the person eligible for the exemption submits to OTC a singed notification of the vendor's denial of exemption on a form prescribed by OTC.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

OTC/Medical Marijuana Taxes: <u>SB 1302</u> by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) adds medical marijuana to the list which allows the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) to file assessment for certain unpaid business taxes for medical marijuana businesses upon the business owners themselves.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Sales Tax Hearings/OTC: <u>SB 1303</u> by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) allows the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) to conduct hearings for sales tax permits using either teleconferencing or videoconferencing capabilities.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Sales Tax/Marketplace Facilitators: <u>SB 1339</u> by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) requires the collection obligation of a marketplace facilitator or referrer that elects to collect and remit tax imposed under Section 1354 or 1402 of Title 68 to also apply to any other taxes administered by the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) administer are levied by local jurisdictions on a retail sale of a product.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 11 to 0. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

CLEET/Mental Health Training: <u>SB 1370</u> by Sen. Kevin Matthews (D-Tulsa) requires as part of the minimum curriculum requirements for training on recognizing and managing a person appearing to require mental health treatment or services, crisis intervention and techniques to assist with de-escalating interaction between security guards, private investigators, and the public.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 11 to 1. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Homeless Camps/Building Codes: <u>SB 1381</u> by Sen. Rob Standridge (R-Norman) requires all municipalities within thirty (30) days to conduct inspections of homeless camps that appear within municipal districts. It requires the homeless camps to be up to building codes established by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission. Any municipalities that do not inspect the homeless camps within the thirty (30)-day period to be liable for any harm within and outside of the immediate boundaries of the homeless camp. If the homeless camp does not meet building codes in the thirty (30)-day period, the municipality must abolish the camp.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate General Government Committee.

Oklahoma Emergency Energy Availability Act of 2022: <u>SB 1410</u> by Sen. Zack Taylor (R-Seminole) creates the Oklahoma Emergency Energy Availability Act of 2022. The bill requires, on or after the effective date of this act, that any agency, department, bureau, system of higher education, school district, township, or municipality that has an energy policy must develop an emergency energy plan detailing methods or sources of energy during a state of emergency. Such plans may not rely on energy from a single source and must develop policies for the acquisition of electrical power generated from at least three (3) distinct energy sources. It requires the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management to promulgate rules to effectuate this section of law.

The bill passed the Senate Energy Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 13 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Emergency Medical Services: <u>SB 1441</u> by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) authorizes emergency medical services (EMS) regions, ambulance service districts or municipalities to regulate and control ambulance service transports originating within the jurisdiction of such EMS regions, ambulance service districts or municipalities. The bill exempts any ambulance service under contract with a hospital from regulation by emergency medical service regions and ambulance service districts.

The bill passed the Senate Health & Human Services Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Sales Tax/Trade-in Vehicles: <u>SB 1486</u> by Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) requires gross receipts to be calculated for a purchased vehicle to be based only on the difference between the value of the trade-inn vehicle and the actual sales price of the vehicle being purchased.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 9 to 2. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Medical Marijuana/Setbacks: <u>SB 1511</u> by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) prohibits medical marijuana commercial growers from being within one thousand (1,000) feet from a public or private school, while grandfathering in facilities currently within one thousand (1,000) feet. The bill does not force facilities to move if a public of private school opens within one thousand (1,000) feet of their current site. A property owned, used, or operated by a public school or by a private school that is not used for classroom instruction, such as an administrative building, athletic facility, ballpark, field, or stadium, does not constitute a public school or private school unless such property is located on the same campus as a building for classroom instruction.

The bill passed the Senate Health & Human Services Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Emergency Medical Services: <u>SB 1515</u> by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) requires a certified emergency medical response agency to only provide transport upon the approval by the appropriate medical control at the time of transport, except during a natural or manmade disaster, a pandemic, or civil unrest, then a patient must be transported to the nearest facility. The bill states emergency ambulance transportation is not required when a patient's apparent condition does not warrant emergency ambulance transport.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 12 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Harassment: <u>SB 1522</u> by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) adds retired peace officers to the list of entities as it relates to protecting personally identifiable information from persons threatening to post such information online with the intent to threaten, intimidate, or harass such officers.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 9 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Officers Certification: SB 1537 by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Sen. Kevin Matthews (D-Tulsa) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) removes the Assistant Director position at the Council on Law Enforcement Education Training (CLEET). The bill provides that CLEET may suspend certification of an officer if it finds that the certified peace officer has been suspended or terminated for cause by a law enforcement employer. CLEET is prohibited from certifying an officer with out-of-state certification if it finds that the officer's certification was surrendered by the officer to avoid revocation or other disciplinary action from the origin state. Officers may be denied certification if they received a letter of reprimand. Each law enforcement officer in the state is required to attest to his or her certification with CLEET by providing proof of successful and timely completion of all required continuing education hours every three (3) years. The three (3) year cycle will be calculated based on the officer's original certification date. Officers subject to an investigation may surrender their certification.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 12 to 0. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Drug Court Programs: <u>SB 1548</u> by Sen. Roger Thompson (R-Okemah) directs county commissioners who establish a drug court to enter an administrative contract with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to establish and maintain the program. The bill sets how each drug court is to be run by a designated drug court coordinator, as well as other staffing positions with funds from DMHSAS, with overhead supported by the county and court administrative services provided by the county court system. The bill directs judges to make decisions on whether someone should be considered eligible for the drug court program. The bill removes certain requirements for drug court program participants.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Cross-Deputization Agreements: SB 1565 by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) authorizes the Attorney General to cross-deputize police officers of the police department of any municipality or any officer deputized by the county sheriff or a designee subject to an interlocal governmental agreement with the Attorney General's Office in an effort to combine city, county, and state law enforcement efforts and to encourage cooperation between city, county, and state law enforcement officials. It requires liability for the conduct of any municipal police officer cross-deputized under the terms and conditions of an interlocal governmental agreement or any officer deputized by the county sheriff under the terms and conditions of an interlocal governmental agreement to remain the responsibility of the respective employer for that officer.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 11 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Address Confidentiality for Child Survivors and Their Families Act: <u>SB</u> 1569 by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Sen. Jeff Boatman (R-Tulsa) creates the Address Confidentiality for Child Survivors and Their Families Act. It adds human trafficking and child abduction to a specified address confidentiality program. The bill defines "human trafficking" and "child abduction".

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Protective Orders: <u>SB 1674</u> by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) modifies the eligibility requirements for filing a protective order by removing requirement of first needing to file a police report with a law enforcement organization prior to requesting a protective order for defined petitioners.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 10 to 0. The bill heads to the full Senate.

Open Meetings/Executive Sessions: <u>SB 1698</u> by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) provides that disclosure of confidential information presented or discussed in an executive session of a public body shall subject the violator to sanctions. The bill was <u>amended</u> in Committee to remove the word "criminal".

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a <u>vote</u> of 5 to 4. The bill heads to the full Senate.

NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

(As of time of distribution this is a list of the meetings that have been posted.)

Monday, February 14, 2022

House A&B Judiciary Subcommittee <u>9:00 a.m. in Room 4s5</u>

Municipal Courts/Costs and Fees: HB 3426 by Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) authorizes a municipal court of any Oklahoma Municipality to contract with a statewide association of municipal governments to administer contracts with third parties attempting to locate and notify persons of their outstanding fines and fees. A person may make a payment directly to the municipal court or the contractor is authorized to accept payment of fines and fees. A person may pay the fine in lieu of any appearance before the court. Such payment accepted by the court constitutes a finding of guilty as though a plea of nolo contendere had been entered by the defendant. The court shall release the fine or fee upon receipt of all sums due; or upon failure to pay, the court may act under Section 27-122 of Title 11. The provisions of any contract entered by a municipal court is required to be administered by a statewide association of municipal governments of Oklahoma.

Tort Claims/Wrongful Incarceration: <u>HB 3511</u> by Rep. Cyndi Munson (D-OKC) allows those qualifying for expungement of their record to request an expedited hearing. The bill sets the total liability of the state and political subdivisions on any claims from a wrongful conviction a Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) multiplied by the number of years serves in prison, expressed as a fraction to reflect partial years with claimants who served time on death row entitled to receive supplemental compensation in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) multiplied by the number of years served on death row, expressed as a fraction to reflect partial years, and a claimant was released on parole or released under conditions of probation shall be entitled to receive supplemental compensation in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) multiplied by the number of years the person was on parole, all compensation paid through standard annuity payments and eligibility for group health benefits through the Department of Corrections total to the period of time the claimant served for the crime for which they were wrongfully incarcerated or on parole.

House A&B Health Subcommittee <u>10:30 a.m. in Room 450</u>

Medical Marijuana/Licensing: <u>HB 3734</u> by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Cody Rogers (R-Tulsa) creates a temporary and annual licensing program for medical marijuana businesses specified therein. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) shall make available a temporary medical marijuana dispensary, grower license or medical marijuana processor and an annual license. The application fees for the temporary or annual license shall be paid in the amounts provided for in Section 427.14 of Title 63.

House A&B Natural Resources and Regulatory Services Subcommittee 11:00 a.m. in Room 5s2

OWRB/Fees: <u>HB 3825</u> by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) deletes fee and late fee requirements for annual groundwater permit administration for the submission of water use reports.

Public Buildings/Bonds: HB 4099 Rep. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) allows the Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority to issue obligations to acquire real property, together with improvements for purposes of construction, repair and rehabilitation and improvements to real and personal property, of existing Oklahoma Historical Society facilities in a total amount necessary to generate net proceeds of Forty-six Million Dollars (\$46,000,000.00) after providing for cost of issuance, credit enhancement, reserves, and other associated expenses related to the financing, as long as no proceeds will be expended on the Oklahoma Museum of Pop Culture. The bill directs the Authority to use interest earnings on funds or accounts created for the purposes of this section to be utilized as partial payment of the annual debt service or for the purposes decided by the Authority. The obligations issued under this section, shall not be subject to taxation of any kind by the State of Oklahoma, or by any county, municipality, or political subdivision therein.

Senate Health and Human Services Committee 2:30 p.m. in Room 535

Political Subdivisions Opioid Abatement Grant Act: <u>SB 1275</u> (R-Altus) revises the criteria for allocating the grant awards to eligible participants. The bill also

provides for the reimbursement of attorney fees and expenses directly related to opioid litigation incurred as part of legal services agreements entered before May 21, 2020. The initial opioid grant awards to be listed on a distribution table adopted by the Board.

Medical Marijuana/Testing Validation: <u>SB 1847</u> by Sen. Cody Rogers (R-Tulsa) establishes a system in statute for medical marijuana businesses to undergo voluntary process validation to reduce required testing standards. The procedures must include initial requirements to achieve process validation, requirements for licensees to track their marijuana and marijuana product inventory, requirements to record and document retention policies, requirements to maintain process validation when a licensee has made a significant process change, a process to revoke a licensee's authority to operate under process validation, punishment for willful violations of process validation, and an annual registration fee not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00).

House County and Municipal Government Committee <u>3:00 p.m. in Room 4s5</u>

County Home Rule: <u>HB 2990</u> by Rep. Carol Bush (R-Tulsa) allows the board of county commissioners in counties with a population of fifty thousand (50,000) or according to the latest Federal Decennial Census to have the power to: conduct business in order to carry out the duties, responsibilities, and functions of the county which are not prohibited by the state. The grant of authority does not extend to matters affecting municipalities nor shall a rule, regulation, policy, or code adopted pursuant to this section apply within an incorporated municipal area unless adopted by the municipal governing authority by ordinance or interlocal agreement.

Courts/Fee Collection: <u>HB 3025</u> by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) prohibits the court clerk from accepting payment which consists of unrolled coins in an amount greater than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and may require loose coins in excess of that amount be counted and rolled by the payor before accepted as a payment. This does not apply to municipal courts not of record.

Sate Run County Health Departments: <u>HB 3231</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) requires each state-run county health department to be renamed in the following manner: State Department of Health in "name of county" County: each county department shall be named based on the county in which the facility resides; and this does not apply to facilities in Oklahoma or Tulsa County. **9-1-1 Operators/Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact:** <u>HB</u> <u>4135</u> by Rep. Stay May (R-Broken Arrow) amends the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact by expanding the scope of "emergency responder" to mean anyone with special skills, qualifications, training, knowledge, and experience in the public or private sectors that would be beneficial to a participating jurisdiction in response to a local emergency as defined in applicable law or ordinance or authorized drill or exercise and must include 911 operators that transfer emergency calls, messages, or data to appropriate public safety answering points.

House A&B Transportation Subcommittee <u>4:30 p.m. in Room 4s5</u>

Municipal Road Drilling Activity Revolving Fund: <u>HB</u> <u>3037</u> by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Mark Allen (R-Spiro) creates the Municipal Road Drilling Activity Revolving Fund. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and for each fiscal year thereafter, there shall be apportioned Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) to the Municipal Road Drilling Activity Revolving Fund for use by municipalities to repair roads as prescribed pursuant to the requirements of Section 2 of this act.

House A&B Finance - Revenue and Taxation Subcommittee <u>4:30 p.m. in Room 450</u>

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofit Entities: <u>HB 3649</u> by Rep. Sheila Dills (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Dewayne Pemberton (R-Muskogee) adds an exemption from sales tax sales of tangible personal property or services to an organization which provides support to veterans, active-duty members of the Armed Forces, reservists, and members of the National Guard to assist with the transition of civilian life.

Sales Tax Exemption/Avian Research: <u>HB 3854</u> by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) creates a new sales tax exemption on the sale of tangible personal property to an avian research center which is exempt from the provisions of the IRS Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501 (c)(3) and which promotes conservation, education, and research of endangered, rare, and understudied birds.

Medical Marijuana/Gross Receipts: <u>HB 3905</u> by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) makes individuals liable for the payment of medical marijuana gross receipts tax. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is authorized to conduct hearings using either teleconferencing or videoconferencing capabilities. The bill requires passthrough entity shall withhold income tax at the highest Oklahoma marginal individual income tax rate currently in statue.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

House Government Modernization Committee 10:30 a.m. in Room 450

Bidding/Notice: <u>HB 1819</u> by Rep. Mark McBride (R-Moore) amends 61 O.S. Section 104 providing that public notice shall be given by "written or electronic means". Such notice shall be "accessible to the public" at least "10 days" prior to the date set for opening bids. In addition, 61 O.S. Section 110 is amended for "all" bids shall be sealed and opened only at the time mentioned in the bidding documents. "The awarding" agency "shall" electronically "publish the tabulation sheet" on the website of the agency.

Open Meetings/Virtual: HB 3415 by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) allows a public body to hold meetings and executive sessions by electronic means where each member of the public body may participate in the meetings electronically. It requires members of public bodies subject to the Open Meeting Act to not participate in more than half of the regular and special meetings of the public body upon which they serve utilizing this exception in any calendar year. It requires attendance more than this prohibition to be recorded as an absence. It does not apply to those serving on a virtual charter school approved and sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 3-145.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. It requires the prohibition of establishing a quorum utilizing electronic means exclusively for the purposes of conducting a public meeting as outlined therein to be suspended statewide during a state of emergency declared by the Governor to respond to the threat of the public's peace, health and safety, or during a locally declared state of emergency declared by a mayor, school board president, or chairman of a board of county commissioners whereby such locally declared state of emergency will not continue for more than thirty (30) days without ratification of the respective public body.

House Elections and Ethics Committee <u>10:30 a.m. in Room 5S2</u>

Prohibit the Private Funding of Elections Act: <u>HB 3046</u> by Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) prohibits any government official or election official to solicit, take, or otherwise accept from any person, any contribution, donation, or anything else of value for purposes of conducting state or local elections in this state. All costs and expenses relating to elections shall be paid for with public funds. A person who is convicted is deemed guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC) for a term of not more than five (5) years or by a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or both.

Elections/Federal Law: <u>HB 3232</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) requires that in the event any federal law, regulation, order, or other official action seeks to substantially modify or supersede any voter registration or election administration laws and procedures duly enacted by the Legislature, that federal law, regulation, order, or other official action will be applicable only to elections for federal office held in Oklahoma.

Elections/Declaration of Candidacy: <u>HB 3233</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) modifies the information contained on declaration of candidacy forms requiring the party affiliation to be included regardless of the office being sought.

Elections/Percentage of Voters: <u>**HB 3234**</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) prohibits any election held by any county, school district, technology center school district, municipality, fire protection district, or other political subdivision authorized to call elections from being valid unless forty percent (40%) of active registered voters eligible to vote in the election, as of thirty (30) days prior to the date of the election, vote at the election.

Elections/School Board Members: <u>HB 3235</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) requires vacancies for members of the board of education of every school district or technology center school district filled at the next succeeding election. It requires the remaining term of any member who completes the term for which the member was elected but not wishing to serve until the successor of the member takes office on the first regular, special, or emergency school board meeting after the successor has been certified as elected, shall be filled by the Governor.

Elections/Proposed Questions: <u>HB 3236</u> by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) requires any question proposed in an election held by any county, school district, technology center school district, municipality, fire protection district, or other political subdivision authorized to call elections shall require three-fifths (3/5) of the votes in the affirmative for such question, except as otherwise provided. **Elections/Ballots:** <u>HB 3321</u> by Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) and Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) requires all ballots used for any election to be printed on paper to ensure a fair and accurate count. For any election conducted after July 1, 2022, each county election board shall report election results by precinct, including votes cast by in-person voters and absentee voters. Devices or equipment used by the State Election Board or a county election board to count or tabulate ballots shall be prohibited from connecting to the Internet. Provided, this does not serve to prohibit a secure network connection between the State Election Board and a county election board for the purpose of transmitting or receiving voter registration or election-related data.

Elections/Voter Eligibility: <u>HB 4151</u> by Rep. Regina Goodwin (D-Tulsa) allows a felon to register to vote if that individual's sentence has been discharged, received a commutation that reduced the sentence to time served pursuant to federal or state law, received a commutation for a crime that has been reclassified from a felony to a misdemeanor pursuant to federal or state law, or been granted a pardon pursuant to federal or state law.

House Public Safety Committee <u>10:30 a.m. in Room 4s5</u>

Municipal Courts/Criminal History Information: <u>HB</u> <u>3066</u> by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) adds municipal courts to the list of reporting that Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) of criminal history information on each person subject to mandatory reporting requirements.

Firearm/Municipal Carry: HB 3069 by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) allows municipalities to authorize certain employees or public officials of the municipality, municipal public trust, or municipal authority who possess a valid handgun license and who have successfully completed any additional training or requirements as established by ordinance or resolution to carry a concealed handgun when acting in the course and scope of employment. Firearms may not be present in a location that is a firearm-prohibited location. Firearm prohibited location is defined as any room, location, or other place on municipally owned, leased or maintained property designated as a firearm-prohibited location by the municipal government and any police department, courthouse, courtroom, prison, jail, detention facility, or any facility used to process, hold, or house arrested persons, prisoners, or persons alleged delinquent or adjudicated delinquent.

Firearms/Transporting: <u>HB 3070</u> by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) clarifies the scope of transporting a firearm in the vehicle.

Law Enforcement/All-Terrain Vehicles: <u>HB 3661</u> by Rep. Danny Sterling (R-Tecumseh) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) deletes divided highway crossing prohibition for all-terrain vehicles.

Firearms/Domestic Violence: <u>HB 3743</u> by Rep. Jason Lowe (D-OKC) makes it unlawful for any person convicted of a misdemeanor or felony domestic violence offense in any court of this state or of another state or of the United States to use, purchase, or to have in his or her possession or under his or her immediate control, or in any vehicle which the person is operating, or in which the person is riding as a passenger, or at the residence where the convicted person resides, any pistol, imitation or homemade pistol, altered air or toy pistol, machine gun, sawed-off shotgun or rifle, or any other dangerous deadly firearm.

Law Enforcement/Farm Permit: HB 3822 by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) allows any person who is less than seventeen (17) years of age but is at least fourteen (14) years of age and who resides upon a farm in this state or is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state may apply to the Department of Public Safety for a farm permit authorizing such person, while possessing the permit, to operate any Class D motor vehicle. A farm permit entitles a licensee, who is at least fourteen (14) years of age but less than sixteen (16) years of age, to operate the appropriate vehicle while going to ore from or in connection with an farm job, employment or other farm-related work, on days while school is in session, over the most direct and accessible route between licensee's residence and school of enrollment for the purpose of attending school or when the licensee is operating a passenger car at any time when accompanied by an adult who is the holder of a valid commercial driver license, Class A, B, C, or D driver license and who is actually occupying a seat beside the driver. The bill sets up specific times of driving. Any conviction shall be considered a moving traffic violation. DPS may, in its discretion, suspend the permit of an individual.

Senate Judiciary Committee <u>AAI in Room 4s9</u>

Property/Real Estate Contracts: <u>SB 1168</u> by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC)permits a real estate contract for the sale, conveyance or exchange of real property, option to purchase real property, or a lease with an option to purchase real property to include a contingency, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, for the purposes of securing required permits, lot changes, zoning changes, and any other land use approvals necessary to use and operate the real property.

Open Records/Personal Information: <u>SB 1452</u> by Sen. Kay Floyd (D-OKC) amends the definition of "record" to mean any portion of any document of information provided an agency or entity of the state or a political subdivision to obtain licensure under the laws of this state or a political subdivision that contains an applicant's personal address, phone number, electronic mail address, or other contact information. Provided, however, lists of persons licensed, the existence of a license of a person, or an address expressly stated to be a business or commercial address submitted with an application for licensure be public records. Any portion of any record that contains the name or any other identifier of the occupants of any residential structure must be kept confidential. Public bodies that provide utility services to the public may keep confidential the personal information.

Law Enforcement/Domestic Violence Registration: <u>SB</u> <u>1568</u> by Sen. Michael Brooks (D-OKC) requires domestic abuse, domestic assault or domestic assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, or domestic assault and battery with a deadly weapon to be registered under the Mary Rippy Violent Crime Offenders Registration Act

Law Enforcement/Asset Forfeiture: <u>SB 1763</u> by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) modifies parties eligible to bring forfeiture action from the district attorney to the State of Oklahoma.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

House Judiciary – Civil Committee <u>10:30 a.m. in Room 206</u>

Law Enforcement/Stolen Catalytic Converters: <u>HB 3005</u> by Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) makes it a felony for any person to receive, transport, or possess one or multiple stolen automotive catalytic converters or their components under such circumstances that the person knew or should have known that the same was stolen. It sets the punishment as imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a term of not less than one year nor more than five years or confined in the county jail for a term of not less than ninety (90) days nor more than 200 days or fined not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by both fine and imprisonment. The bill exempts from its provision's automotive catalytic converters in use and attached to a vehicle. It defines the term "automotive catalytic converter" to mean the emission control device that is part of the exhaust system located on gas- or diesel-powered motor vehicles.

Law Enforcement/Forfeiture: <u>HB 3411</u> by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) allows forfeiture actions specified therein to be brought by the State of Oklahoma in the proper county of venue as petitioner; provided, in the event the district attorney State of Oklahoma elects not to file such action or fails to file such action within ninety (90) days of the date of the seizure of such equipment, the property will be returned to the owner.

Law Enforcement/Obscene Material: <u>HB 4013</u> by Rep. Sherrie Conley (R-Newcastle) adds any book, article, magazine, publication, or written matter of any kind, or any drawing, etching, painting that includes representation, performance, depiction, or description of sexual conduct as obscene material.

Courts/Patterns of Abuse: <u>HB 4194</u> by Rep. Jon Echols (R-OKC) requires the courts to be responsible for assessing prior patterns of abuse and shall present written findings on the bail amount if the person arrested for any crime provided for in the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act or a violent crime.

Law Enforcement/Penalties for Third-Degree Burglary: <u>HB 4373</u> by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) modifies the penalty of thirddegree burglary and defines applicable terms. It also modifies the definition of "property attached thereto" includes, but not limited to, tires, wheels, and catalytic converters.

Law Enforcement/Smash and Grab Burglaries: <u>HB 4376</u> by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) makes it unlawful for a person to commit the offense of smash-and-grab burglary when they, while acting individually or in concert with others, intentionally and without authority enters a mercantile establishment with the intent to commit a theft which results in discernible damage to the mercantile establishment in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) Any person who violates this law, upon conviction, is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the custody of Department of Corrections of not less than two (2) years nor more than ten (10) years, or by a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or both. Subsequent violations increase the fine and time in jail.

House Technology Committee <u>10:30 a.m. in Room 5S2</u>

Drones/Violations: <u>HB 3171</u> by Rep. Logan Phillips (R-Mounds) prohibits the use of drones to trespass on property with intent to eavesdrop or other surveillance in a private place, install in any private place without the consent of the person; intentionally use a drone to photograph, record, or observe another person in a private place; or land a drone on the lands or water of another resident provided the resident owns the land beneath the water body in its entirety without the owner's consent. Anyone who violates this act is guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill does not apply to law enforcement officers while in the performance of the officers' lawful duties.

9-1-1 Management Authority: <u>HB 3278</u> by Rep. Justin Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) replaces the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety with the Oklahoma 9-1-1 Management Authority in the Oklahoma Emergency Telephone Act.

Oklahoma Distributed Ledger Technology Assets Offering Act: <u>HB 3279</u> by Rep. Justin Humphrey (R-Lane) creates the Oklahoma Distributed Ledger Technology Assets Offering Act. The bill requires Oklahoma to develop and employ an integrated logistics, information, and payment tracking ecosystem which uses hack-resistant, distributed ledger technologies in support of state agencies and other governmental units and establishes rules and regulations.