

05-22

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### MUNICIPAL ROAD DRILLING ACTIVITY FUND PASSED

Municipal Road Drilling Activity Revolving Fund: [HB 3037](#) 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 Fund for use by municipalities to repair roads as prescribed pursuant to the requirements of Section 2 of this act. The monies in the Fund shall be allocated by ODOT only to municipalities having a population of less than fifteen thousand (15,000) persons or most recent population estimate to repair damage to municipal roads caused by or reasonably caused by increased use of such roads resulting from oil or gas drilling activity. A municipality seeking funds must make the initial application to ODOT no later than May 1, 2023. A municipality is required to provide twenty-five percent (25%) of the total project costs to be eligible for the funds.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 86 to 0. It has now been moved to the Senate. Title is currently stricken.

### ARBITRATION BILL PASSED

[HB 1606](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) requires in accordance with Section 51-111.1 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any and all decision or awards rendered pursuant to the arbitration requirements referred to shall be final and binding. Such decisions and awards shall be complied with by both parties and implemented within thirty (30) days of the date of the decision or award unless parties to the award otherwise mutually agree in writing to an additional period for compliance. Failure or refusal to comply within the thirty (30) days, shall constitute a failure to bargain in good faith and an unfair labor practice. Such failure or refusal shall subject the non-complying party. The corporate authorities must pay the costs and attorney's fees in any action that results in a final order for the corporate authorities to comply with and/or implement a final arbitration decision or award. The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 69 to 10 and will now head to the Senate.

OML was told this bill would not run without all parties agreeing on the language, but the bill was heard on the floor yesterday without any agreement. We will continue to meet with legislators and share our concerns.

*The Advocate* is published by the Oklahoma Municipal League. Forward your comments or suggestions to:

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## BILLS ON THE MOVE AT THE CAPITOL

Here is a snapshot of bills impacting cities and towns.

**Agricultural Structures and Equipment/State Fire Marshal:** [HB 1512](#) by Rep. Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) and Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) mandates that the standards for erection, installation, and use of structures and equipment used for agricultural purposes, including livestock or poultry facilities and the planting of agricultural crops, except medical marijuana, are subject only to regulations by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. This section shall apply to all unincorporated property, the State Fire Marshal, and other entities who purport to regulate the erection, installation, and use of structures and equipment for agricultural purposes.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 80 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Elections/Registered Voters:** [HB 2974](#) by Rep. Jim Olsen (R-Roland) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) requires the State Election Board to perform a query of the entire voter registration database to determine how many individuals are registered at the same residential address by June 1 of each year. If more than ten (10) registered voters share a single residential address, the State Election Board is required to provide a list to the district attorney for investigation of any possible criminal investigation. Registered voters sharing a residential address in a nursing home, veterans center, medical facility, multiunit housing, installations of the Armed Forces of the US where uniformed or overseas voters, or other locations authorized in writing by the Secretary of the State Election Board.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 66 to 23. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Sportsman Hearing Protection Act/Preemption:** [HB 2982](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Dewayne Pemberton (R-Muskogee) creates the Sportsman Hearing Protection Act. The bill establishes that a firearm suppressor that is manufactured in Oklahoma is not subject to federal regulations. The suppressor must have "Made in Oklahoma" stamped on it. The bill prohibits any governmental entity, governing body, officer, employee, sheriff, police department, municipal or district attorney from adopting any rule, order, ordinance, or policy regulating a firearm suppressor if it imposes a prohibition, restriction or regulation that does not exist in Oklahoma. A state entity is prohibited from receiving any grant funding if they adopt a rule, order, ordinance, or policy that enforcement federal law that conflicts with Oklahoma law. Any citizen

is authorized to file a complaint with the Attorney General if they offer evidence that at rule, order, ordinance, or policy that enforces federal law relating to suppressors is enforced.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 76 to 18. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Environment/Poultry Feeding Operations/Nutrient Management:** [HB 2983](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Casey Mudock (R-Felt) requires every poultry feeding operation to meet standards set by administrative rules, rather than standards set by the USDA Department of Natural Resources Conservation Service, and directs the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry to promulgate emergency rules for land application of poultry waste.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 85 to 10. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary State Act:** [HB 2984](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) 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

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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 by a [vote](#) of 78 to 15. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Prohibit the Private Funding of Election Act:** [HB 3046](#) by Rep. Mark Lepak and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) requires elections, including costs and expenses of conducting and administering, to be paid for with public funds; provided that this does not apply to franchise elections. The bill prohibits government officials or election officials from soliciting, taking or otherwise accept from any person, any contribution, donation, or anything else of value for purposes of conducting or administering the elections. Donations not directly related to the administration of elections may be accepted by the Secretary of the Election Board or the county election board upon written approval by the Governor and written notification sent to the Speaker and Pro Tempore. Any person who violates this act, is, upon conviction, guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). A second violation and conviction bring a Ten Thousand Dollar (\$10,000.00) fine, and a third violation is subject to a fine not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or imprisonment in the Department of Corrections for a term of not less than two (2) years nor more than five (5) years or both fine and imprisonment.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 79 to 18. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Veterans Sales Tax Exemption/Vehicle:** [HB 3050](#) by Rep. Tommy Hardin (R-Madill) and Sen. Frank Simpson (R-Ardmore) exempts the sales of motor vehicles from counting towards the Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) annual sales tax exemption limit for one hundred percent (100%) disable veterans. 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 by a [vote](#) of 93 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Oklahoma Drug Court:** [HB 3053](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) provides an option for sentences to be deferred when offenders successfully complete drug court programs.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 92 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure:** [HB 3056](#) by Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) amends the definition of "municipal political committee" to include municipal questions. The bill also requires committees and candidates when the municipality is not covered by this act based on the population and budget requirements, but the candidate or committee expends or receives more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) in donations or in-kind expenditures. The Ethics Commission does not have enforcement jurisdiction concerning candidates or committees that are covered by this act based on expenditures alone. Any violation of this act may be prosecuted by the district attorney or a locally adopted policy. An omission or failure to report expenditures shall constitute a misdemeanor with a fine of up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day, not to exceed a maximum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The court shall give discretion as to the fine amount with the intent of the fine to obtain compliance and reporting requirements. Willful noncompliance is a misdemeanor offense with a fine of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) with the fine to deter unlawful activity and punish willful offenders.

The bill passed the House with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 82 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Municipal Courts/Criminal History Reporting:** [HB 3066](#) by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) requires municipal courts to report criminal history information on each person subject to mandatory reporting requirements to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 90 to 6. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearm/Municipal Carry/Employees:** [HB 3069](#) by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) and Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) 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.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 80 to 13. The bill moves to the Senate.

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**Firearms/Transporting:** [HB 3070](#) by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) clarifies the scope of transporting a firearm in the vehicle.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 97 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Preemption:** [HB 3157](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) deletes the authority for a governing body to regulate the carrying of firearms or other deadly weapons, concealed or otherwise. The Governor is prohibited from issuing any proclamation during a state of emergency from containing any prohibition on the manufacture, possession or use of explosives or combustibles that are components used for the manufacture of firearm ammunition. The bill also adds that the Governor, municipal or state entity can prohibit or restrict the business or operations of a firearms or ammunition manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler, supplier, retailer, or a gun range.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 79 to 17. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Identification:** [HB 3191](#) by Rep. Danny Williams (R-Seminole) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) makes it lawful for a citizen or lawful permanent resident, who can lawfully purchase or possess a firearm under state law, carry or transport a concealed or unconcealed firearm as authorized by the Self-Defense Act and in possession of a valid handgun license, identification card, driver license or military identification card to carry. Law enforcement officials may not disarm a person without reasonable suspicion if the person displays a valid driver license or identification card. The individual in possession of a firearm must disclose possession when instructed by a law enforcement officer.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 81 to 15. The bill moves to the Senate.

**State Run County Health Departments:** [HB 3231](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) and Sen. Blake Stephens (R-Tahlequah) requires each state-run county health department to be renamed in the following manner: State Department of Health in " " 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.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 76 to 21. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Elections/Federal Law:** [HB 3232](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) 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.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 78 to 15. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Autonomous Vehicles/Preemption:** [HB 3317](#) by Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) and Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) allows for operation of fully autonomous vehicles. It states conditions for operations and requires submission of law enforcement interaction plan prior to operation. The bill establishes rules and requirements for fully autonomous vehicles. A fully autonomous vehicle shall be properly titled in accordance with Oklahoma Vehicle Licensing and Registration Act and shall be identified as an autonomous vehicle. The bill preempts the authority of a county or municipality to prohibit, restrict or regulate the operation of motor vehicles equipped with automated driving systems.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 83 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Governmental Tort Claims Act/Physicians:** [HB 3387](#) by Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) modifies the lists of entities that are designated as employees of this state for the purposes of the Governmental Tort Claims Act by adding "physician staff" to the list.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 96 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Oil and Gas/Waste Recycling and Reuse:** [HB 3403](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Mark Allen (R-Spiro) modifies the definitions of the term "recycled water" and "treated constituents" to include thermal or any other commercially viable technology process available as it relates to oil and gas produced water and waste recycling and reuse.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 89 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Reports of Convictions:** [HB 3501](#) This bill 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

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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 by a [vote](#) of 93 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**OWRB/Glover River:** [HB 3636](#) This bill by Rep. Eddie Dempsey (R-Valliant) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) prohibits the Oklahoma Water Resources Board from approving any application or permit the construction of a dam on Glover River in McCurtain County.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 96 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Municipal Court Costs:** [HB 3642](#) by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) increases the maximum fine for a municipal court not of record from Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 72 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Veterans Transition Groups:** [HB 3649](#) 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.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 86 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Education/Law Enforcement Courses:** [HB 3656](#) by Rep. Danny Sterling (R-Tecumseh) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) allows a school district to offer students in grades eleven and twelve an elective course in law enforcement. The law enforcement elective course must include, at a minimum, a general introduction to law enforcement training; critical skills and entry requirements for law enforcement professionals; and career opportunities in law enforcement. It tasks the State Board of Education to coordinate with the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training to develop instructional materials and curricula for schools to use in the law enforcement elective course. The bill permits the State Board of Education to promulgate necessary rules.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 88 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

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

The bill passed the House with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 91 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Hearing Aids:** [HB 3701](#) by Rep. Todd Russ (R-Cordell) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) exempts from sales tax hearing aids purchased from an audiologist or hearing aid dealer or fitter who is licensed by the state.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 90 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Oklahoma Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Matching Fund Act:** [HB 3819](#) by Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) creates the Oklahoma Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Matching Fund Act. There is an appropriation of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) to the Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Matching Fund. The Department of Commerce shall administer the fund. A voluntary association of Oklahoma local governmental jurisdictions or another legal entity, including a public trust or nonprofit corporation or other entity which performs functions for the benefit of Oklahoma local governmental jurisdictions, is eligible to obtain funding for rural hazard mitigation projects. The governing board of an entity described in subsection A or B of Section 4 of this act, shall develop a plan for the use of available funds for providing matching amounts as required to the terms of applicable federal law to obtain federal funds for the prevention of damage or to repair damages caused by a qualifying hazard. "Qualifying hazard" shall include, but not be limited one or more of the following conditions: high winds, tornadoes, hail, rain, flooding, freezing rain or ice, heavy snow, wildfires, seismic disturbances, or other hazardous conditions that a Governor's disaster declaration covers. Not later than July 31, each entity shall transmit, in an electronic form created by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, a summary of each project upon which matching funds received by the entity from the Oklahoma Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Matching Fund were expending during the fiscal year ending on the June 30 date. No entity which qualifies for the funds, shall be required to provide matching funds or to provide equivalent value to obtain available funds of funds for planning expenditures. The funds allocated shall not be used for any direct expenditures on salaries, employee benefits,

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acquisition of real or personal property, or other than the available funding for which the allocated funds may be utilized, or any other purpose.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 87 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Farm Permit:** [HB 3822](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) 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 or from or in connection with a 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.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 87 to 7. The bill moves to the Senate.

**DEQ/Water Quality Standard Variances:** [HB 3824](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to adopt water quality standard variances and site-specific criteria are utilized in and enforced through water quality permits issued by DEQ. Such variances and site-specific criteria may be adopted through the rulemaking or through the permitting process; provided that the process satisfies the public participation and water quality standard variance requirements set forth in the corresponding federal regulations.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 94 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**OWRB/Reasonable Fees:** [HB 3825](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) and deletes fee and late fee requirements for annual

groundwater permit administration for the submission of water use reports.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 87 to 7. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Motorized Bicycles and Scooters:** [HB 3852](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) removes limitations on vehicles with electric power sources.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 88 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Avian Research:** [HB 3854](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) 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.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 78 to 11. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority:** [HB 3995](#) by Rep. Mike Dobrinski (R-Okeene) and Sen. James Leewright (R-Bristow) modifies rules, rights, and limitations of the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (OMPA), including removal of obsolete references and procedures. election committee. It modifies when the Authority is prohibited to sell output relating to acquisition and construction contracts. It repeals statutes, which relates to joint interest in Electric Generation Project; acquisition and construction contracts and personnel included in unclassified service.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 75 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Courts/Jurors Fees:** [HB 4079](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) increases the fee juror's fee for each day's attendance before any court of record from Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00).

This bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 93 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Public Buildings/Public Competitive Bidding:** [HB 4080](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. James Leewright (R-Bristow) amends the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974 by increasing the contract amount from Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00). The State Fire

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Marshal or the authority having jurisdiction shall receive the plans and specifications for new public buildings before the bidding process. Notice of bids are allowed to be given electronically or by publication in a newspaper within ten (10) days before the date set for opening bids. The bill allows bids to be opened in person or electronically. When the awarding public agency determines that the project is at least fifty percent (50%) complete, the retainage amount shall be two and one-half percent (2.5%) with respect to the balance of work. The bill repeals several sections of law pertaining to the Public Competitive Bidding Act: Sections 8-10, 14-15, 51, 103.8, 129, 203, 315, 321, 329, and 330-331.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 87 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Human Trafficking Response Unit:** [HB 4210](#) by Rep. Jeff Boatman (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) requires the Oklahoma Attorney General to maintain data related to human trafficking and to assist law enforcement, social service agencies, and private victim services programs in identifying and supporting victims of human trafficking. The Office of the Attorney General the Human Trafficking Response Unit is authorized to maintain data and develop training programs to assist agencies and victims of human trafficking. The Human Trafficking Response Unit is to also create incentive programs to encourage state agencies to attend training programs and review policies, and appropriate targeted funding for victim service programs. The Human Trafficking Response Unit is to publish public service announcements on various media platforms to educate the public about the dangers of human trafficking.

The bill passed the House with title stricken by a [vote](#) of 90 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Workers' Compensation Benefits/Surviving Spouses:** [HB 4371](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) allows the weekly income benefits payable to the surviving spouse of a municipal police officer, a municipal firefighter, a county sheriff or deputy sheriff, a state trooper, or an emergency medical technician to continue whether the surviving spouse remarries.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 88 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Protection from Domestic Abuse Act:** [HB 4374](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) expands the scope of "domestic abuse" as defined under the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act. It modifies the definition of "family

or household members" to include persons not related by blood or marriage living in the same household. It defines "living in the same household" as a person who regularly resides in the same, single dwelling unit, persons who resided in the same single-dwelling unit within the past year, or persons who individual lease agreements whereby each person has his or her own private bedroom and shares the common areas.

The bill passed the House by a [vote](#) of 96 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Security Guard:** [SB 80](#) by Sen. J.J. Dossett (D-Owasso) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) provides on or after November 1, 2022, a person employed or operating as an unarmed security guard who has submitted a complete license application to CLEET and who is employed by a licensed security agency shall have forty-five (45) days from the date of employment to secure a license issued by CLEET pursuant to the Oklahoma Security Guard and Private Investigator Act. If the application of the person is denied before forty-five (45) days has expired or if the time expires prior to the issuance of a license, the person shall not continue to operate as a security guard until such time as a proper license is issued.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Police Pension and Retirement System/Age:** [SB 318](#) by Sen. Zack Taylor (R-Seminole) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) increases the maximum age for entry into the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System from forty-five (45) years of age to fifty (50).

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 42 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**Law Enforcement/Human Trafficking:** [SB 1116](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) allows Department of Public Safety (DPS) to disqualify any person from operating a Class A, B, or C commercial motor vehicle for life for a felony conviction of human trafficking while operating a commercial motor vehicle, when the conviction has become final.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Veteran's Sales Tax Exemption/ID:** [SB 1177](#) by Sen. Frank Simpson (R-Ardmore) and Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) 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.

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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 with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Small Police Departments:** [SB 1188](#) by Sen. Zack Taylor (R-Seminole) and Rep. Carl Newton (R-Woodward) allows a municipality with a population of four thousand five hundred (4,500) or less, according to the latest Federal Decennial Census, to employ retired police officers who are more than forty-five (45) years of age and who have participated in the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System and are receiving retirement benefits. Such officers shall not be eligible to reenter and participate in the System.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 42 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**Tort Claims Act/Mental Health Transport/Inverse Condemnation:** [SB 1311](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) for the purposes of the Governmental Tort Claims Act, employee shall include independent contractors and employees of independent contractors while actively engaged in the transport of individuals in need of initial assessment, emergency detention, or protective custody as authorized by Section 1-110 of Title 43A. The bill also provides that a tort shall not include a claim for inverse condemnation as it relates to the Governmental Tort Claims Act.

The bill passed the Senate with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Division/Repeal:** [SB 1317](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) and Rep. Rhonda Baker (R-Yukon) repeals 11 O.S. Section 52-103 relating to the clerks and treasurer's advisory committee.

The bill passed the Senate with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**DEQ/Water Quality Standards:** [SB 1325](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) transfers authority to administer Oklahoma Water Quality Standards from Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 43 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Bonds/Public Facilities:** [SB 1343](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) allows the Municipal and County Economic and Community Development Bonds Act to be used for county jails, detention facilities, and emergency or fire response facilities. It also adds public health facilities including but not limited to county or public hospitals, clinics, emergency medical service facilities, and county health department facilities.

The bill passed the Senate with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 45 to 2. The bill moves to the House.

**Open Records/Personal Information:** [SB 1452](#) by Sen. Kay Floyd (D-OKC) and Rep. Carol Bush (R-Tulsa) 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.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemptions/Nonprofit Women's Veterans Organization:** [SB 1496](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) creates a new sales tax exemption for women's veteran's organizations from the sale of tangible property or services.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.



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**OMPA:** [SB 1529](#) by Sen. James Leewright (R-Bristow) and Rep. Mike Dobrinski (R-Okeene) modifies the term limit of Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority members by providing that such terms will expire at the adjournment of the annual meeting of the Board of Directors held at the expiration of the Director's term of office. The bill modifies the definition of "project" by striking language excluding any interest in any plant for the generation of electrical energy which is to be owned jointly with any investor-owned utility. The bill shifts the authority to borrow money from the State Bond Advisor to the Deputy Treasurer for Debt Management. The bill strikes the prohibition on the Authority from selling to certain municipalities not qualifying as an eligible public agency.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Court Fines and Fees:** [SB 1532](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. John Talley (R-Stillwater) directs the courts to waive all fines and fees including any payments made prior to the effective date of this act. On or after November 1, 2022, the court shall waive all outstanding fines, court costs, and fees in a criminal case for any person who has made installment payments on outstanding fines, costs, fees, and restitution ordered by the court on a timely basis for forty-eight (48) months in the previous sixty-month (60) period including any payments made prior to the effective date of this act. To be eligible for a waiver, the person shall have complied with all probation or supervision requirements ordered by the court. On or after November 1, 2022, the court shall waive all outstanding district court or municipal court fines, court costs and fees in a criminal case for any person who has made installment payments.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**CLEET:** [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 with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 43 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Autonomous Vehicle:** [SB 1541](#) by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Rep. Ryan Martinez (R-Edmond) authorizes a person to operate a fully autonomous vehicle without a human driver provided that the automated driving system is engaged, and the vehicle meets certain conditions outlined in the measure. Prior to operating the vehicle, the person must submit a law enforcement interaction plan to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) that shows law enforcement how to communicate with a fleet support specialist who is available during the times the vehicle is in operation, how to safely remove the vehicle from the roadway, how to recognize whether the vehicle is in autonomous mode, and any additional information the manufacturer or owner deems necessary. Such persons must also submit proof of financial satisfactory to DPS that the fully autonomous vehicle is covered by insurance or proof of self-insurance of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) which will satisfy the Compulsory Insurance Law. If there is an accident involving the vehicle, it must remain at the scene of the accident and the owner must report the accident. The measure also authorizes the use of on demand autonomous vehicles, provided, the use of such a vehicle does not contradict the provisions of the Oklahoma Transportation Network Company Service Act. Commercial vehicles may be used as well. Fully autonomous vehicles must be properly registered in accordance with the Oklahoma Vehicle Licensing and Registration Act. The measure clarifies that the automated system piloting the vehicle shall be considered the driver for the purpose of assessing compliance with applicable traffic or motor vehicle laws.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 44 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**Open Meetings/Virtual:** [SB 1547](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) requires a public body that maintains a website and utilizes a high-speed Internet connection, to live stream all meetings of the public body on such website and posted on the website after the meeting. This applies to any public body in any county for which the Governor declares a state of emergency until the emergency declaration expires or is terminated. Public bodies in any county for which the Governor declares a state of emergency until the

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emergency is terminated is exempt from the requirement to post public notice of the meeting.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the House.