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**DIM THE LIGHTS, REGULAR SESSION IS OVER
AS SPECIAL SESSIONS FLICKER**

Dim the lights, the party's over for now as the 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature adjourned Sine Die. But Special Sessions continue. The Legislature is moving through the process of Special Session to address the ARPA funding and Governor Stitt **announced** yesterday that he is calling the Legislature back into a Special Session on June 13th solely for the following purposes: 1) to abolish, reduce, or phase out the state's grocery tax and 2) to reduce the state personal income tax.

A special thank you to everyone who called, emailed, and visited with your legislators at the Capitol and in their districts about bills with significant municipal impacts. With your help, we saw several pieces of positive legislation signed into law and several bad bills stopped. We are working on the annual Sine Die Report, which captures the major issues tracked by OML and will be available next month.

FINAL OML PRIORITIES BECOME LAW

Open Records/Personal Information: **SB 970** by Sen. Kay Floyd (D-OKC) and Rep. Tammy Townley (R-Ardmore) 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, personal phone number, personal 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 or other business or commercial information disclosable under state law submitted with an application for licensure shall be public record. 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 takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Medical Marijuana/Penalties: **SB 1704** by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Dick Lowe (R-Amber) increases the penalties for sales, purchases or transfers for value of medical marijuana by a medical marijuana business or employees or agents of the medical marijuana business to persons other than those allowed by law occurring within a one-year time period to include an initial fine of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for a first violation and a fine of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for any subsequent violation occurring within any two-year time frame. After investigation by OMMA, the Authority may revoke the license of any person directly involved with the diversion of marijuana. If the Authority, after an investigation, can show a preponderance of evidence a pattern of diversion or negligence leading to diversion, the business licenses associated with the diversion and any entity with common ownership shall have their business licenses revoked.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

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

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Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure: [HB 3056](#) by Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) authorizes a to contract with an Interlocal Entity operating under the Municipal Campaign Finance Disclosure for Exempted Municipalities Act and the municipality may alternatively follow the provisions of the Municipal Campaign Finance Disclosure for Exempted municipalities Act when they have adopted their own comprehensive code of campaign finance and personal disclosure ordinances as authorized under this act. Any municipality not subject to the Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act, or any entity authorized under subsection B of Section 56-103 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, may enact a comprehensive code of campaign finance and personal financial disclosure ordinances including policies and provisions for the administration and enforcement thereof. The Ethics Commission shall have no enforcement responsibilities under the Municipal Campaign Finance Disclosure for Exempted Municipalities Act. Municipal governments may provide for hearings, enforcement, and civil fines not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). Hearings shall be conducted through the municipal court to adjudicate violations of the comprehensive code of campaign finance and personal financial disclosure ordinances. Any judicial order from a municipal court may be appealed to the district court having jurisdiction over the alleged or adjudicated violator. Municipal governments enacting a comprehensive code of campaign finance and personal financial disclosure ordinances may contract with an interlocal entity.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

LEGISLATURE OVERRIDES STITT'S VETOES

Prior to adjourning, the Legislature took up several bills that Governor Stitt vetoed in the 58th Legislature. With three-fourths vote to become law notwithstanding the objection of the Governor, several measures become law.

Law Enforcement/Tribal Court Convictions: [HB 3501](#) 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 defines "tribe" to mean a federally recognized Indian tribe within the geographic boundaries of this state; and "qualified court" to mean those tribal court systems that have adopted the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010.

The veto message was as follows: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3501.

As Governor of the State of Oklahoma and is charged with safeguarding State interests and protecting all 4 million Oklahomans.

While Enrolled House Bill 3501 was passed under the guise of public safety, this bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It would essentially require the State to carry out tribal court adjudications, no questions asked. Specifically, it would bind the Department of Public Safety (DPS), a State agency, to recognize and act upon reports of conviction submitted by courts of any federally recognized Indian tribe located anywhere in the State of Oklahoma in the same manner it acts upon reports of conviction from State and municipal courts.

As all involved are no doubt aware, some tribes have rallied around recent requests that the U.S. Supreme Court deny Oklahoma the ability to prosecute crimes committed by non-Indians in nearly half the State, which hamstring's the State's ability to seek justice for Indian and non-Indian victims alike.

If this bill had required of tribes what is expected of all legitimate governments- namely: transparency, accountability, and reciprocity, among others, perhaps I would have signed it. But as it reads now, this bill further erodes more than one hundred and ten years of settle State jurisdiction and sovereignty. As Governor, I will not be a part of any effort to yield to tribes sweeping jurisdiction where legally there is none.

As I have done before, I again invite tribal and other leaders and partners to work with me toward reasonable solutions rather than engaging in aggressive efforts to strip the State of its established authority to prosecute, tax, and regulate all 4 million Oklahomans, regardless of race, background, or affiliation otherwise.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3501.

The House voted to 80 to 5 to override Governor Stitt's veto. The Senate voted 45 to 1.

With the override, the bill takes effect on May 27, 2022.

Oklahoma Route 66 Commission: [HB 4457](#) created until June 30, 2027, the nine (9) member Oklahoma Route 66 Commission. Of those nine (9) members, one shall be a city manager, assistant city manager, or economic development director for a municipality on Route 66 with a population greater than two (2) years, and renewable for three-year terms appointed by the Senate Pro Tempore. The bill also created the "Oklahoma Route 66 Commission Revolving Fund" to receive Six Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,600,000.00) for the time the Commission exists.

The [veto message](#) was as follows: This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 4457.

Enrolled House Bill 4457 would create the Oklahoma Route 66 Commission (Second Route 66 Commission) when the state already has an Oklahoma Route 66 Centennial Commission (First Route 66 Commission). Both Commissions are set to sunset on the same day, June 30, 2027. House Bill 4457 provides funding for the Second Route 66 Fifty-eighth Legislative Day, Thursday, May 26, 2022, 1263 Commission but does not reference the First Route 66 Commission. Additionally, the Second Route 66 Commission may not be constitutional in its composition.

As there is only one Mother Road, I see no need for her to have two commissions. Moreover, if the legislature feels the First Route 66 Commission is inadequately funded, I encourage them to address that issue rather than creating a Second Route 66 Commission (that is arguably unconstitutional). Two Commissions to address one issue, one highway, and one centennial is inefficient and a waste of government time and resources.

For the aforementioned reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 4457.

The House voted to override the veto by a vote of 79 to 6. The Senate voted 41 to 7.

With the override, the bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

GOVERNOR STITT VETOES BILLS

Public Trusts/Hospitals: [HB 3692](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) allows trustees of public trusts operating a hospital who are not elected officials to receive reasonable compensation and reimbursement for actual expenses related to the performance of their duties as trustees. Reasonable compensation is defined as to not exceed a stipend per meeting equal to the regional average for compensation of members of other governmental or nonprofit boards.

The [veto message](#) is as follows: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3692.

Enrolled House Bill 3692 would allow public trusts that operate a hospital to pay trustees for their service. The State has hundreds of boards and commissions with thousands of volunteers serving without compensation. Public hospital trusts should be treated the same.

If enacted, HB 3692 would set a dangerous precedent and likely lead to numerous other state boards asking Oklahoma taxpayers to provide similar pay for their members.

For the aforementioned reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 3692.

Law Enforcement/Mental Health Transport: [HB 4082](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) creates the "Mental Health Transport Revolving Fund". The fund is a continuing fund that may be budgeted and expended by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to carry out the provisions of Section 1-110 of Title 43A. If transportation is needed within the thirty (30) mile radius, the law enforcement agency that made the initial contact within its jurisdiction shall be responsible for transporting the individual inside the thirty (30) mile radius. For patients who self-present and consent to voluntary transport to a facility for inpatient treatment, arranging transportation of these patients shall be the responsibility of the facility receiving the patient or the patient may arrange other alternative transportation. For patients that self-present and are determined to be a person requiring treatment, arranging transportation of these patients shall be the responsibility of the facility receiving the patient. The transportation requirements shall be considered once a connection has been made with staff of the health care facility and it is apparent the patient is not presenting a clear or immediate threat to the safety of the staff of the receiving facility. Once custody of the individual is transferred to the appropriate health care facility staff, transporting law enforcement shall not be required to remain onsite with the individual pending initial assessment.

The [veto message](#) is as follows: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 4082.

Although Enrolled House Bill 4082 would resolve linguistic inconsistencies owing to the enactment of multiple, inconsistent amendments to Section 1-110 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes during the 2021 Legislative Session, this bill would do more than cleanup existing statutory language. It also would create a new transport revolving fund for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. While this bill would only create - rather than appropriate or otherwise direct any monies to - a fund, I have no doubt that Oklahoma taxpayers would soon be saddled with costs.

Further, I fully support reforming our broken mental health system. For too long we have relied on law enforcement officers to intercede and be responsible for helping a person in the middle of a mental health crisis, regardless of whether they have the training. Law enforcement's job is to protect the public and we should be looking at real reforms to address how we help and treat those in mental health crisis, as opposed to asking law enforcement to fill existing gaps in our broken system.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 4082.

Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund/Appropriation: [HB 4473](#) appropriates the sum of One Hundred Eighty-one Million Twenty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$181,026,750.00) to the Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund created by HB 4474.

The [veto message](#) is as follows: This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have vetoed House Bill 4473.

Enrolled House Bill 4473 would appropriate \$181,026,750.00 to the Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund (Giveaway Fund). This fund would give handouts of \$75.00 to a person having a single filing status, and \$150.00 to persons having a married filing status. Because those checks would be subject to federal taxation, citizens would receive only about 75% of those amounts, on average. In other words, State dollars would be paid to the federal government in exchange for a diminished payment to Oklahomans in December.

Rather than spending \$180 million on one-time payments that would further spur inflation the very issue we need to combat we should give Oklahoma taxpayers permanent relief. That is why I have invited the legislature to join me to work on solutions such as a repeal of the state grocery tax and a reduction of the

state income tax. These calls align with conservative, Oklahoma values rather than expensive government handouts that provide little actual benefit to the taxpayer.

For the aforementioned reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 4473.

Attempt to override the bill failed unanimously in the House by a vote of 0 to 86.

With the override, the bill takes effect July 1, 2022.

Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund: [HB 4474](#) creates the Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund (Fund). The State Treasurer shall make distribution of monies in the Fund on December 1, 2022, or as soon thereafter as possible. The distribution of monies shall be made in the amount of:

- Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) with respect to a person having a single filing status for the 2021 income tax year; or
- One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) with respect to persons having a married filing status for the 2021 income tax year.

The amount received by the taxpayer is not subject to Oklahoma income tax.

The [veto message](#) is as follows: This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have vetoed House Bill 4474.

Enrolled House Bill 4474 would create the Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund which gives handouts of \$75.00 to a person having a single filing status, and \$150.00 to persons having a married filing status. Because those checks would be subject to federal taxation, citizens would receive only about 75% of those amounts, on average. In other words, State dollars would be paid to the federal government in exchange for a diminished payment to Oklahomans in December.

Rather than spending \$180 million on one-time payments that would further

spur inflation the very issue we need to combat we should give Oklahoma taxpayers permanent relief. That is why I have invited the legislature to join me to work on solutions such as a repeal of the state grocery tax and a reduction of the state income tax. These calls align with conservative, Oklahoma values rather than expensive government handouts that provide little actual benefit to the taxpayer.

For the aforementioned reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 4474.

Sales and Use Tax: [SB 1075](#) eliminated the one and twenty-five hundredths percent (1.25%) state sales tax levy on the purchase price of a vehicle. The bill also repealed the language that the sale of vehicles is not subject to any sales and use taxes levied by cities, counties, or other jurisdictions of the state.

The **veto message** is as follows: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1075.

Enrolled Senate Bill 1075 would remove the current 1.25% tax levied on the sale of motor vehicles or optional equipment or accessories. This does little, if anything, to alleviate the real financial burden Oklahomans are facing due to a forty-year high inflation rate and record high gas prices. In fact, the only beneficiaries of this tax break are those who can afford a new car or truck. Meanwhile every family in the state is paying more for food and groceries to gas and everything in between. We should be passing real tax reform that provides immediate relief and allows every Oklahoma to keep more of their hard-earned money regardless of how much they make or whether they can afford a new car.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1075.

The Senate voted to override the veto by 38 to 9. The House voted the override down by a vote of 0 to 85. The veto is sustained.

ARPA BILLS BECOME LAW WITHOUT STITT'S SIGNATURE

On Wednesday, Governor Stitt allowed the two bills pertaining to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to become law without his signature.

ARPA Funds: [HB 3349](#) by Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) and Senator Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) creates the Statewide Recovery Fund subject to legislative appropriation. All such monies received by the state after the effective date of this act pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law No. 117-2, Section 604 "Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund" and Section 9901 "Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds", less and except the funds dedicated to the Nonentitlement Units of Local Government (NEU) as described in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. All interest and income derived from deposits to the Statewide Recovery Fund shall be credited to the Statewide Recovery Fund.

The bill took effect on May 25, 2022.

OWRB/Grant Programs: [SB 429](#) appropriates Ninety-Five Million (\$95,000,000.00) to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for several Joint Committee on Pandemic Relief Funding Projects. The breakdown is as follows:

- \$50,000,000.00 for grant programs that facilitate the design, construction, and maintenance of water and wastewater infrastructure, and to improve the condition of publicly owned, deficient dams regulated by OWRB.
- \$25,000,000.00 for a grant program for communities under 7,000 or rural water districts under 2,300 non-pasture taps.
- \$20,000,000.00 for a grant program for communities over 7,000 or rural water districts over 2,300 non-pasture taps.
- \$5,000,000.00 for a grant program for communities that own dams with the latest condition assessment of poor or unsatisfactory. Priority funding shall be given to communities that have a population of less than 7,000. Projects funded by the grant shall be limited to up to \$1,000,000.00 per community and must meet the federal eligibility requirements of the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule.
- \$20,000,000.00 for a grant program to be used with matching tribal investments according to MOUs. **(This section was line-itemed by Governor Stitt.)**

- \$25,000,000.00 to the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District for water conservation needs.

These programs were all approved by the Joint Committee on Pandemic Relief Funding on March 10, 2022.

The bill takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Statewide Recovery Fund/Appropriation: [SB 1495](#) by Senator Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) and Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) appropriates Nine Hundred Thirty Million Two Hundred Six Thousand Three Hundred Six Dollars (\$930,206,306.00) to the Statewide Recovery Fund created by HB 3349.

The bill took effect on May 25, 2022.

APPROPRIATION BILLS BECOME LWOS

Without the Governor's action to veto or line item the General Appropriations bill and some accompanying bills, they become law without his signature. Those bills are as follows:

Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund: [HB 4456](#) creates the "Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund", also known as "PREP Fund". The fund is subject to legislative appropriation or transfer as provided by law and consists of all such monies as the Legislature may direct to be appropriated or transferred to said fund.

The bill took effect on May 27, 2022.

General Appropriations/REAP Funding: [SB 1040](#) is the general appropriations bill. Here are a few sections impacting REAP:

- Section 45 the Rural Economic Action Plan Fund is increased to Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00).
- Section 110 appropriates Eight Million Four Hundred Forty-five Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-three Dollars (\$8,445,323.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to perform the duties imposed upon the Oklahoma Water Resources Board by law.
- Section 111 directs the Director of OMES to transfer monies from the appropriation made to OWRB in Section 110 to the Rural Economic Action Plan Water Projects Fund (225 Fund) created pursuant to Section 2202.1 of Title 62 in amounts and ratios requested by the agency for the REAP program except that cumulative amount transferred shall not exceed the

cumulative amounts of equal monthly allotments of the appropriation to OWRB.

Sections 1 through 135 and Sections 146 through 149 take effect on July 1, 2022.

Sections 136 through 145 took effect on May 27, 2022.

BILLS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR STITT

Clerks and Treasurers/Stop-Payment Orders: [HB 1138](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Chris Kidd (R-Waurika) authorizes the treasurer of any county, city or town to initiate a stop-payment order or submit a positive pay file providing the payee, amount, and serial number of the check, warrant, or voucher to the depository if a check, warrant or voucher has been issued and is subsequently lost or destroyed prior to a second or duplicate check, warrant or voucher to be issued. If the treasurer or any county, city, or town is unable to initiate a stop-payment or submit a positive pay file, clerks are authorized and empowered to issue a second or duplicate check, warrant or voucher if an affidavit has been filed with the clerk, and an indemnifying bond running to the treasurer of the county, city or town or to the State Treasurer in double the amount of such lost or destroyed check, warrant, or voucher.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Agricultural Structures and Equipment/Unincorporated Areas: [HB 1512](#) by Rep. Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) and Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) Except as otherwise provided by law as of the effective date of this act, standards for erection, installation, and use of structures and equipment used for care and handling of livestock, poultry facilities, and planting of agricultural crops, except medical marijuana, shall only be subject to regulation by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. This subsection shall only apply to all entities who purport to regulate the erection, installation, and use of structures and equipment for care and handling of livestock, poultry, and planting of agricultural crops, except medical marijuana, in unincorporated areas.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

OWRB/Drought Relief Fund: [HB 2959](#) appropriates to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board the sum of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) to the Emergency Drought Relief Fund pursuant to Section 2250 of Title 27A.

The bill takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Medical Marijuana/Moratorium on Licenses: [HB 3208](#) by Rep. Rusty Cornwell (R-Vinita) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) allows the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) to declare and establish a moratorium on processing and issuing new medical marijuana licenses for an amount of time the Authority deems necessary. Beginning August 1, 2022, and ending August 1, 2024, OMMA shall, based on the number of current medical marijuana business licenses for processors, dispensaries, and commercial growers, declare and establish a moratorium on new licenses. The Executive Director of OMMA has the authority to terminate the moratorium at any time prior to August 1, 2024, if the Executive Director determines that all pending licensing reviews, inspections, or investigations have been completed by OMMA. This does not apply to the renewal of medical marijuana business licenses for dispensaries, processors, or commercial growers.

The bill takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Law Enforcement/Homicide Prevention Act: [HB 3286](#) by Rep. Jacob Rosecrants (D-Norman) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) creates the Homicide Prevention Act. It increases the penalties for stalking from a misdemeanor to a felony and increases punishment. The bill modifies the definition of "course of conduct" as used in determining the crime of stalking. Whenever a law enforcement agency receives a complaint of stalking and finds that stalking has occurred, the agency is required to provide a copy of a Stalking Warning Letter shall be served upon the accused in the same manner as a bench warrant. If the service is to be in another county, the court clerk may issue service to the sheriff by facsimile or another electronic transmission for service by the sheriff and may receive the return of service from the sheriff in the same manner.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Elections/Absentee Ballot: [HB 3364](#) by Rep. Eric Roberts (R-OKC) and Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) modifies the list of ways a registered voter may apply for an absentee ballot. The bill requires a registered voter applying for an absentee ballot by means of electronic communication to provide his or her name, birth date, an identification number, and any other information as prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board. This information must match the information of the voter registration record in order to apply for an absentee ballot. A voter is allowed to provide multiple identification numbers if the voter cannot recall which identification number they included in the registration, provided one of the numbers matches. If there is no

match, the voter will be informed information and instruction to contact the county election board. The voter will not be eligible to apply for an absentee ballot via electronic communication if their voter registration does not include a birth date or identification number. A registered voter applying for an absentee ballot will be required to confirm their address prior to submitting the form electronically before January 1, 2023. For a voter applying for an absentee ballot in person, by mail, or by facsimile device, the procedures are the same except that if the voter registration does not include a birth date or identification number, the absentee ballot will be accepted without a match on these things.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Elections/Voter ID Cards/Registration: [HB 3365](#) by Rep. Eric Roberts (R-OKC) and Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) requires new voter identification cards to be mailed to the physical address of the voter if such address is valid to receive mail delivery. A valid address is one that follows the correct standards and formatting of the US Postal Service. A valid address shall have a street name, street number, city, state, and ZIP code. An invalid address is one that has a directional address or unknown structure under standards of the US Postal Service. If the applicant's address of residence is not a valid address for mail delivery, then the voter identification card shall be transmitted to the mailing address provided by the applicant on his or her voter registration application. Any change in political affiliation shall be subject to Section 4-119 of this title. A registration shall be canceled for the following reasons: written notice from the voter, death, conviction of a felony, judicial determination of mental incapacitation, registration in another county or state, failure to respond to address mailing and failure to vote or surrendering of the voter's Oklahoma driver license to the Department of Public Safety upon being issued a license in another state. A list of voter registrations that were canceled during the previous twenty-four (24) months, and the reason for cancellation shall be made available to the public. The bill updates who will receive an address confirmation mailing prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board and paid for by the state to include any voter who is registered to vote and has the same address of residence as five or more other registered voters. It defines "Same address of residence" as the same street name, same street direction, same street type, same street post direction, same street number, same building or apartment number, and same zip code. It requires the State Department of Health to include date of birth, last four digits of the Social Security number, and driver license or state identification number for each resident included on the certified list of all deaths of

residents that have occurred within the state for the immediately preceding month. The bill requires a publicly available voter list of any voter for whom a first-class mailing from the county election board or the State Election Board was returned undeliverable. It lists the type of voters required to complete an address confirmation form during in-person absentee voting or at the voter's precinct or when applying for an absentee ballot.

Sections 1, 3 through 7 take effect on January 1, 2023.
Section 2 takes effect on July 1, 2023.

Sales Tax Exemption/Veterans Transition Groups: [HB 3649](#) by Rep. Sheila Dills (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Dewayne Pemberton (R-Muskogee) adds an exemption, effective July 1, 2022, from sales tax sales of tangible personal property or services to a nonprofit organization and 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 and provides documentation to the Oklahoma Tax Commission that over seventy percent (70%) of its revenue is expended on support for transition to civilian life.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Rural Hazard Mitigation Funding: [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 in order to obtain available funds of funds for planning expenditures. The funds allocated shall not be used for any direct expenditures on salaries, employee benefits, 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 takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Court Costs Compliance Program/Cost Administration Implementation Committee: [HB 3925](#) by Rep. Danny Sterling (R-Tecumseh) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) creates the Cost Administration Implementation Committee with 13-members, two of those being two municipal court judges or their designees to be selected by OMJA. The Committee shall oversee the implementation and make recommendations to the Legislature for any changes it deems necessary and appropriate for the administration of court fines, fees, costs, and assessments. Effective July 1, 2023, it establishes the court cost compliance program with the purpose of assisting county sheriffs and the courts of this state with the collection of fines, costs, fees, and assessments associated with cases in which a warrant has been issued and the case has been referred to the court cost compliance program pursuant to Section 983 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes. It also requires municipal courts to set a regular time and courtroom for cost hearings. It allows the court to release or recall a warrant with a down payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and a mutually agreeable monthly payment plan. When the judgment and sentence of a court, either in whole or in part, imposes fines, costs, fees, or assessments upon a defendant, the court at the time of sentencing shall require the defendant to complete under oath a form that provides current information regarding the financial ability of the defendant to pay. The information required on the form to be included, but not limited to, the individual and household income and living expenses of the defendant, excluding child support and any monies received from a federal or state government need-based or disability assistance program, the number of dependents, a listing of assets, excluding assets exempt from bankruptcy, child support obligations, health, mental or behavioral health conditions that diminish the ability of the defendant to pay restitution, and additional court-related expenses to be paid by the defendant. Municipal courts, in lieu of mailing the summons

provided for in subsection F of this section, may give the defendant personal notice at the time of sentencing of a specific date, time, and place, not less than sixty (60) nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of sentencing to appear for a cost hearing if the fines, costs, fees, and assessments remain unpaid. If a defendant is found by a law enforcement officer to have an outstanding warrant for FAILURE TO APPEAR – COST HEARING, the law enforcement officer shall release the defendant and issue a citation to appear pursuant to Section 209 of this title. If the defendant fails to appear at the time and place cited by the law enforcement officer, the court may issue a summons or warrant as provided in Section 209 of this title. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a municipal court if the municipal court has previously provided personal service to the defendant of an opportunity for a cost hearing.

Section 1 took effect on May 26, 2022.

Sections 2 through 5 takes effect on July 1, 2023.

Public Buildings/Bonds: [HB 4099](#) by Rep. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) 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.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

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 takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund: [HB 4456](#) creates the “Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund”, also known as “PREP Fund”. The fund is subject to legislative appropriation or transfer as provided by law and consists of all such monies as the Legislature may direct to be appropriated or transferred to said fund.

The bill took effect on May 26, 2022.

Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund/Appropriation: [HB 4464](#) appropriates Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) to the Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund created in HB 4456.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Firearms/Felons: [SB 186](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Sen. Sean Roberts (R-Hominy) amends 21 O.S. Section 1283 impacting the prohibition on felons' possession of specific firearms including sawed-off rifles. The bill removes a prohibition of a convicted felon from being a passenger in which a firearm is located.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Law Enforcement/Impaired Driving/Driving Revocations: [SB 366](#) by Sen. Kim David (R-Porter) and Speaker Pro Tempore Kyle Hilbert (R-Depew) makes numerous changes to various sections of law in Title 47 on revocation and restoring of driving privileges including administrative and legal actions, the Impaired Driver Accountability Program changes, and penalties. The bill repeals Sections 6-212.6, 754.1, 754.2 and 755 of Title 47.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Oklahoma INFORM Act/Online Marketplace: [SB 418](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Ryan Martinez (R-Edmond) creates the Oklahoma INFORM Act. Online marketplace shall require that any high-volume third-party seller on the online marketplace platform provide the online marketplace with

information no later than ten (10) calendar days after qualifying as a high-volume third-party seller on the platform. If the Attorney General has reason to believe that any online marketplace has violated or is violating this act or regulation under this act that affects one or more residents of this state, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in district court. The bill prohibits political subdivisions from establishing, mandating, or otherwise requiring online marketplaces to collect or verify information from high-volume third-party sellers on a one-time or ongoing basis or disclose information to consumers.

The bill takes effect on January 1, 2023.

Homeland Security/Department of Emergency Management: [SB 488](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) creates within the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, the Office of Homeland Security. The Director of the Department shall be the chief officer and shall appoint the Homeland Security Advisor who is responsible to the Director for the operation and administration of the Office. The Commissioner of Public Safety may commission the Director, Advisor, and designated staff within the agency as peace officers. All commissioned staff must obtain and maintain certification as law enforcement officers by CLEET.

The bill takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Elections/Legal Agreements: [SB 523](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) prohibits any agency, board, or commission or other entity of state government, or officer of this state, or state employee, or a county election board, from entering into a legal agreement, consent decree, or settlement of any kind which would alter or amend election procedures prescribed in statute. Any such agreement will be void and unenforceable. The Governor, nor any officer, court, or political subdivision of the state shall amend or alter the election procedures in state, except where specifically authorized in statute. Either chamber of the Legislature may intervene in any action, suit or proceeding those challenges or attempts to modify election procedures prescribed by statute.

The bill took effect on May 20, 2022.

Police Pensions/Disability: [SB 743](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) modifies the definition of permanent in-line disability as used in the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System to mean when a police officer serving in any

capacity at a regular police department of a participating municipality becomes so physically or mentally disabled, as determined by an independent medical examiner, psychiatrist or psychologist selected by the State Board, while in, and in consequence of, the performance of authorizing activities while on duty as an officer that he or she is unable to perform the required duties of a police officer. The bill modifies the normal disability benefit for members with a permanent in-line disability to be the greater of two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the member's final average salary multiplied by the years of credited service of the member, not to exceed thirty (30) years if the officer has more than twenty (20) years of credited service. The bill also modifies the benefit for members who have a permanent and partial disability from any cause and have completed 10 years of services on the basis of the following: • 1% to 49% impaired = 50% of accrued retirement benefit; • 50% to 74% impaired = 75% of accrued retirement benefit; and • 75% to 99% impaired: 100% of accrued retirement benefit.

Section 1 takes effect on October 1, 2022.

Sections 2 and 3 take effect on November 1, 2022.

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry/Appropriation: [SB 1058](#) in Section 10 appropriates Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) to be used for grants to incorporated municipalities affected by the extreme weather event that began February 7, 2021, and ended February 21, 2021, as provided for in SB 1091.

The bill takes effect ninety (90) days after Sine Die.

Municipal Utilities/February 2021 Winter Storm Grant: [SB 1091](#) creates the "February Winter 2021 Winter Storm Revolving Fund" in the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (Department) to provide grants to an incorporated municipalities to mitigate extreme purchase costs, extraordinary costs, or both, incurred by the incorporated municipality's owned or controlled unregulated utility affected by the extreme weather event that began February 7, 2021. To qualify for the grant, the following requirements must be met:

1. The incorporated municipality must show proof of extreme purchase costs, extraordinary costs, or both incurred by the incorporated municipality's owned or controlled unregulated utility.
2. The population of the incorporated municipality shall be no greater than three thousand five hundred (3,500) persons according to the most recent Federal Decennial Census or most recent annual estimate of the population by the United States Census Bureau; and

3. The incorporated municipality's owned or controlled unregulated utility has had no costs mitigated through securitization as provided by Sections 9070 through 9081 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

The Department is required on or before February 1, 2023, to provide a report to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that include the list of municipalities who applied for the grant, the amount requested by each municipality, municipalities that were awarded grants, the amount of each grant awarded, and any other information the Department determines to be necessary.

The bill took effect on May 26, 2022.

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofits: [SB 1305](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) adds a new sales tax exemption for sales of tangible personal property or services to a 501(c) nonprofit organized prior to January 1, 2019, that provides assistance to natural persons following a disaster, with program emphasis on repair or restoration to single-family residential dwellings or the construction of a replacement single-family residential dwelling. "Disaster" means damage to property with or without accompanying injury to persons from heavy rain, high winds, tornadic winds, drought, wildfire, snow, ice, geologic disturbances, explosions, chemical accidents or spills and other events causing damage to property on a large scale.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Sales Tax/Marketplace Facilitators: [SB 1339](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) 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 takes effect on January 1, 2023.

State Fire Marshal/Building Permits: [SB 1374](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) adds correctional facilities under the jurisdiction or control of any public trust to the list of entities whose facilities the State Fire Marshal is required to inspect at least once a year. The bill also prohibits the construction or major alteration to buildings classified as occupancies in the building codes adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission. The bill clarifies that any

partnership, organization, city, town, school district, county, or other subdivision of government failing to comply with the lawful orders of the Fire Marshal shall be subject to the One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) daily fine, provided, that any person or entity described above who is fined shall have the right to a hearing before the Fire Marshal that complies with the rules promulgated by the State Fire Marshal Commission. After the hearing the State Fire Marshal shall issue a proposed order containing proposed findings of fact which shall be presented to the State Fire Marshal Commission at the next scheduled meeting at least ten (10) business days after the issuance of the order. This hearing process supersedes any hearing or appeal section in the building codes adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission. Fine collections shall be deposited in the State Fire Marshal Revolving Fund. Furthermore, noting in this subsection shall be construed as requiring a person to obtain a permit from the State Fire Marshal for the construction or alteration of a single-family dwelling, duplex residential dwelling, barn, shed, or carport attached to single-family dwelling or duplex residential dwelling, when such structure is in an unincorporated area of a county.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Motorized Scooters: [SB 1430](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) and Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) increases the maximum speed allowed to thirty-five (35) miles per hour and is fifty cubic centimeters (50 cu cm). Regardless of power source, local governments may set maximum speed requirements by local ordinance. The operator of a motorized scooter must be at least fourteen (14) years of age unless an older age is required by the local ordinance. The operator of a motorized scooter shall not be required to possess a driver license or carry insurance unless required by local ordinance and shall observe all applicable traffic safety regulations when driving on a public roadway as required by statute and local ordinances. Municipalities have the authority to regulate the usage of motorized scooters on all public roadways, trails, sidewalks, and other public spaces, and to determine appropriate locations for use.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

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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 the Oklahoma Women's Veterans Organization from the sale of tangible property or services.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Public Buildings/Retainage: [SB 1520](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) specifies that at any time the contractor has completed in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the total contract amount, the retainage shall be reduced to two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the amount earned to date once the public agency has determined that satisfactory progress is being made. A public construction contract shall provide for partial payment based upon work completed. The contract shall provide that up to five percent (5%) of all partial payments made shall be withheld as retainage. At any time, the contractor has completed in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the total contract amount, the retainage shall be reduced to two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the amount earned to date once the owner or owner's duly authorized representative has determined that satisfactory progress is being made. When the work of the subcontractor has been determined by the holder to be at least fifty percent (50%) complete, the retainage shall be reduced to two and one-half (2.5%) of the original contract amount.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Medical Marijuana/Setback Requirements: [SB 1726](#) by Sen. James Leewright (R-Bristow) and Speaker Pro Tempore Kyle Hilbert (R-Depew) expands the definition of "schools" to include technology centers as it relates to medical marijuana dispensary and commercial growers to the setback requirements. The location of any medical marijuana commercial grower shall not be within one thousand (1,000) feet of any public or private school as measured from the nearest property line of such public or private school to the nearest property line of the licensed premises of such medical marijuana commercial grower. The location of the medical marijuana commercial grower shall not adjoin to any public or private school or be located at the same physical address as the public or private school. If the commercial grower met the requirements at the time of its initial licensure, the medical marijuana commercial grower licensee shall be permitted to continue operating at the license premises and not subject to renewal or revocation to subsequent events or changes in regulations occurring after licensure that would render the medical marijuana commercial grower in violation of this paragraph. If any public or private school is established within one thousand (1,000) feet of any medical marijuana commercial grower after such grower has been licensed, or if any public or private school is established adjoining to or at the same physical address as any medical marijuana commercial grower after such medical marijuana commercial grower has

been licensed, this paragraph shall not be a deterrent to the renewal or such license or warrant revocation of the license. A property owned, used, or operated by a public school or by a private school that is not used for classroom instruction on core curriculum, 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 used for classroom instruction on core curriculum.

The bill took effect on May 20, 2022.

Open Records/Nonprofit Organizations: [SB 1733](#) by Sen. Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) and Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) modifies the definition of "public body" as used in the Oklahoma Open Records Act to provide that it does not include 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organizations whose sole beneficiary is a college or university, or an affiliated entity of the college or university that is a member of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. Such an organization shall not receive direct appropriations from the Oklahoma Legislature. The bill prohibits the following person from serving as a voting member of the governing board of the organization: a member, officer, or employee of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; a member of the board of regents or other governing board of the college or university that is the sole beneficiary of the organization; or an officer or employee of the college or university that is the sole beneficiary of the organization.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.

Medical Marijuana Commercial Grower License Registration/Signage: [SB 1737](#) by Sen. Blake Stephens (R-Tahlequah) and Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky (R-Balko) requires, beginning November 1, 2022, all medical marijuana commercial growers who operate medical marijuana production facilities to register with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry as an environmentally sensitive crop owner. Registration shall provide notice to commercial and private pesticide applicators of the locations of medical marijuana crops and help minimize the potential for damaging pesticide drift. Medical marijuana commercial grower licensees shall provide their business name, address, Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates for all outdoor medical marijuana production facilities, and any other information required by the Department when registering with the Environmentally Sensitive Area Registry. The bill also requires, upon the effective date of this act, all medical marijuana commercial grower licensees shall be required to post signage at the site of the commercial grow operation. Signage shall be located at

the perimeter of the property with dimensions measuring no less than eighteen (18) inches by twenty-four (24) inches with a font size of no less than two (2) inches. Information required to be displayed on the sign shall be in black standardized font on a white background. OMMA shall promulgate rules regarding the size, placement, issuance, and specifications of the required signage. The required signage shall also comply with county regulations and local ordinances related to the real property where the commercial grow operation is located. Failure to erect the proper signage within sixty (60) days after the renewal of each application accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall result in immediate revocation of the medical marijuana commercial grower license. Upon issuance of a temporary license, all medical marijuana commercial grower licensees shall be required to comply with the provisions of this subsection prior to the precensure inspection conducted by OMMA.

The bill takes effect on November 1, 2022.