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Spring Forward to a Short Week of Session

As the Legislature sprung forward during this short week of session, OML's priorities sailed through. Next week is deadline week for those bills being heard on the Senate and House floor.

Tobacco Regulations/Youth Access: [HB 2165](#) by Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) requires an individual who is under twenty-one (21) who purchases, receives, or possess a tobacco, nicotine, or vapor product or attempts to purchase any of these products using false proof of age to complete an education or tobacco use cessation program approved by the court. If the violator fails to complete the court ordered program, a fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) may be imposed or a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) may be imposed for subsequent offenses. The violator may also be required to complete a community service program or other appropriate programs or services as the court orders. To ensure all programs and court order are followed, the court will have jurisdiction over the violator for 12 months. The measure authorizes cities and towns to enact and municipal police offices to enforce ordinances that prohibit and penalize conduct that violates this law.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 71 to 16. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sale for Resale: [HB 2234](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) requires resellers to obtain a separate sale for resale exemption permit issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) in order to make use of the sales for resale sales tax exemption. OTC may also develop a verification process for sellers to confirm that a reseller has the required permit. Failure to obtain a permit while claiming the exemption is a misdemeanor crime subject to a fine up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

The bill passed the House on Monday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 84 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

BILLS ON THE MOVE

Snapshot of bills impacting cities and towns

Right to Garden Act of 2023: [HB 1008](#) by Rep. Rick West (R-Heavner) and Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) creates the Oklahoma Right to Garden Act of 2023. The bill defines "vegetable garden" and "residential property". It is the right of citizens in Oklahoma to engage in growing their own vegetables in a garden on their person property for personal consumption, subject to restrictions rationally related to a governmental purpose. A municipality, city or town is not prohibited from enacting content-neutral ordinances or regulations that address the following: limiting the size and proximity of gardens to roadways, structures, or other locations that impact health and safety; or the enforcement of constitutional and lawful ordinances adopted by municipalities that are in conformity with general powers that do not specifically ban gardening, including, but not limited to, regulations and ordinances related to water usage during drought conditions, fertilizer use, or control of invasive species.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 53 to 36. The bill moves to the Senate.

OMMA Board: [HB 1349](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) creates a nine (9) member Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) Board, with one member appointed by the Governor to be a chief of police of a municipality with a population over one hundred thousand (100,000). A member shall serve a term of four (4) years from the date of appointment and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. The OMMA Board shall have the power and duty to establish the policies of OMMA; and adopt and promulgate rules to carry out the duties and responsibilities.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 81 to 9. The bill moves to the Senate.

Oklahoma Quality Events Incentive Act: [HB 1352](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) expands the eligibility of

"quality events" to any county with a population of less than one hundred thousand (100,000) persons, or any city or town with a population of less than ten thousand (10,000) persons located in a county with more than one hundred thousand (100,000) persons, each city or town within such county may designate one new or existing event per year that attracts twenty-five percent (25%) of its visitors from out-of-state as a quality event whether it meets certain conditions, or for any National Scenic Byway or any State Scenic Byway, a combination of at least two cities, towns, or counties along the same byway may designate one driving event per year as a quality event.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 82 to 8. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Custom Ordering: [HB 1353](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) expands the definition of manufacturing to include the manufacturing, compounding, processing or fabrication of materials into articles of tangible personal property according to the special order of a customer (custom order manufacturing) by manufacturers classified as operating in North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Sectors 32 and 33 but does not include such custom order manufacturing by manufacturers classified in other NAICS code sectors.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 86 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofit: [HB 1568](#) by Rep. Marilyn Stark (R-Bethany) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) adds a new sales tax exemption for tangible personal property or services for a nonprofit organization in good standing and having gross revenues not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) during the tax year ending on the date immediately preceding the first date after the end of such tax year upon which entity seeks to make otherwise taxable purchases of tangible personal property and services. The provisions of this section do not apply to purchases of alcohol or tobacco by the nonprofit entity.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 70 to 17. The bill moves to the Senate.

Workers' Compensation/Increase in Death Benefits: [HB 1738](#) by Rep. Tammy Townley (R-Ardmore) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Lone Grove) increases the death benefits for a serving spouse if there is more than one (1) child but less than five (5) children, each child shall receive a lump-sum payment of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and a pro rata share of thirty percent (30%) of the deceased employee's average weekly wage. If there are more than five (5) or more children, each child shall receive a pro rata share of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) up from Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00).

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

Firearms/Unlawful Carry: [HB 1762](#) by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) prohibits any person convicted of violating the foregoing provision after a conviction of assault and battery that qualifies as domestic abuse shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the custody of DOC for a term of not less than one (1) year nor more than five (5) years, or by a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or both.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 84 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Fines Assessed and Imposed Reasonably (FAIR) Act: [HB 1777](#) by Rep. Danny Williams (R-Seminole) and Sen. Roger Thompson (R-Okemah) creates the Fines Assessed and Imposed Reasonably (FAIR) Act. The bill modifies the structure of fees collected by the courts for various offenses by removing or reducing several fees.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 82 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Victim Protective Orders/Service: [HB 1845](#) by Rep. Ajay Pittman (D-OKC) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) requires the peace officer making the preliminary investigation to make every attempt to serve the subject of the order and complete a return of service when filing the petition with the district court. If the peace officer is unable to obtain service, the petition shall be filed with the district court the next business day. The court clerk shall receive the petition upon delivery by the peace officer and document the hearing date and time assigned to the case as documented by the peace officer. If the court clerk observes that service has not been obtained, the petition shall still be filed by the court clerk and issued to the appropriate office of the county sheriff to obtain service with priority. The emergency temporary order shall be effective until the date of the hearing set by the judge. The peace officer requesting the order shall be notified by the judge of the date, time, and courtroom location in which the hearing will be held and shall be notified of the date, time, and location of the hearing from a list of available court dates provided by the judge. The peace officer shall provide the victim and subject of the order a copy of the completed order and return the original order to the district court.

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

Broadband/ODOT: [HB 1977](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) requires ODOT, beginning on or before May 1, 2023, to adopt rules that provide for including broadband fiber conduit for internet service providers for all new construction, reconstruction, or repair contracts. In addition, ODOT shall consider other necessary utilities and their alternatives for providing service to resident taxpayers in adopting the emergency rules.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 85 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Laser Safety Act: [HB 2159](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) increases the penalties for

any person who knowingly and maliciously projects a laser on or at a law enforcement officer, upon conviction, from One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. For a second or subsequent conviction, the fine is increased to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment in DOC for a period no more than two (2) years or both. Anyone who knowingly aims a beam of a laser at an aircraft in flight or the flight path, upon conviction, guilty of a felony punishable by a fine of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment in DOC no less than three (3) months nor more than two (2) years, or both. For second and subsequent violations, upon conviction, the felony is punishable of a fine no more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or imprisonment no less than one (1) year no more than five (5) years or both.

The bill passed the House on Monday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 76 to 12. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Investigations of Officers: [HB 2161](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) requires at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members, staff, employees or seats of any government committee, board, agency, department, office, or entity that investigates law enforcement officer misconduct, influences the conduct of or certifies law enforcement officer misconduct investigations, recommends disciplinary actions for law enforcement officer misconduct or imposes discipline for law enforcement officer misconduct must be law enforcement officers certified by the CLEET and who are of any rank and who are from the same department or agency as the law enforcement officer who is the subject of the investigation or disciplinary action. Any findings or recommendations from any government committee, board, agency, department, office or entity shall require a majority vote to do any of the following: investigate law enforcement officer misconduct; influence the conduct of or certify law enforcement officer misconduct investigations; recommend disciplinary actions for law enforcement officer misconduct; or impose

discipline for law enforcement for officers misconduct. The Legislature find that setting and maintaining standards of professionalism and integrity of law enforcement officers in this state are of statewide concern.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 54 to 36. The bill moves to the Senate.

Public Utilities/Road & Highway Construction/Natural Gas: [HB 2241](#) by Rep. Mike Dobrinski (R-Kingfisher) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) provides that rural water districts, nonprofit water corporations, and municipal public water systems in municipalities with a population of ten thousand (10,000) people or less are exempt from having to pay for any expenses related to removing or relocating water and sewer facilities in public rights-of-way due to a construction project on a county road or highway that is maintained by the county. The bill establishes that rural water districts, nonprofit water corporations, and municipal public water systems in municipalities with a population of fifteen thousand (15,000) people or less and natural gas systems that serve less than ten thousand (10,000) customers are exempt from paying for costs related to removing or relocating natural gas, water, and sewer facilities in public rights-of-way due to state highway or turnpike construction projects.

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

Court Cost Compliance Programs: [HB 2259](#) by Rep. Danny Sterling (R-Tecumseh) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) establishes a court cost compliance program beginning November 1, 2023. The purpose of the program shall assist 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. Court cost compliance liaisons shall inform individuals of their right to a cost hearing. A single down payment is sufficient to recall all cost-related warrants against a defendant pending in a single jurisdiction. Law enforcement officers are directed to issue warnings, instead of citations, to any person who was arrested and was

found to have outstanding warrants or failed to appear for a cost compliance hearing. The bill allows the court to make determinations on the ability of a defendant to pay the court financial obligations and allows the court to grant a hardship waiver for all or part of the amount owed. The list of factors that the court can and cannot consider to determine whether a defendant is able to pay is updated. The bill establishes a presumption that a defendant is unable to pay if they are disabled, eligible federal needs-based financial support like food stamps, receive subsidized housing, has been homeless in the past twelve (12) months or has a total income below one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty level. The bill also outlines the process and timeline for issuing summons, cost hearings, referrals to the court cost compliance program and willfulness hearings. Credit amount is increased for time served to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day of incarceration or Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) if the individual performs useful labor.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 80 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/High School Courses: [HB 2265](#) by Rep. Ronny Johns (R-Ada) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) authorizes a school district to offer to students in grades eleven and twelve an elective course in law enforcement. The law enforcement elective course shall include, at a minimum: a general introduction into law enforcement training; critical skills and entry requirements for law enforcement professionals; and career opportunities in law enforcement. The State Board of Education may coordinate with CLEET to develop the curricula and materials for this elective course.

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

Oklahoma Flood and Drought Management Task Force: [HB 2293](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) creates the Oklahoma Flood and Drought Management Task Force into two groups, the management group, and

the advisory group. The management group consists of state agencies. The advisory group is comprised of designees of the following state associations and entities: OML, ACCO, and ORWA. The advisory group shall include the resources of all remaining state agencies and departments available to provide advice and assistance to the Oklahoma Flood and Drought Management Task Force, including the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Task Force shall have the following duties: 1) develop and recommend state drought and flood response, recovery, and mitigation initiatives; 2) identify drought and flood management areas in the state; 3) provide coordination and communication among federal, state and local entities as deemed appropriate for drought and flood assistance programs, education and information; and perform such drought- and flood-related assessments and response functions as deemed necessary. Beginning 2025, and every ten (10) years after, in conjunction with the update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan and the State Flood Plan, OWRB shall coordinate with the Task Force to update the Oklahoma Drought Management Plan.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 79 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Occasional Sales: [HB 2316](#) by Speaker Pro Tempore Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) provides a definition for "occasional sales" to mean: a) one or two sales of taxable items, other than an amusement service, at retail during a twelve-month period by a person who does not habitually engage, or hold himself out as engaging, in the business of selling taxable items at retail; b) the sale of the entire operating assets of a business or a separate division, branch or identifiable segment of a business; c) a transfer of all of substantially all the property used by a person in the course of an activity if after the transfer the real or ultimate ownership of the property is substantially similar to that which existed before the transfer; the sale of not more than ten admissions for amusement services during a twelve-month period by a person who does not hold himself out as engaging, or does not habitually engage, in

providing amusement services; or e) the sale of tangible personal property who does not hold a permit issued under this code and is not required to obtain a permit as a "seller" or "retailer". A person who holds a permit issued under the Oklahoma Sales Tax Code and makes a purchase from a person entitled to claim the exemption shall accrue use tax on the transaction and remit it to the OTC.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 77 to 16. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Hotels: [HB 2335](#) by Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) removes tax reporting requirements, permit and remitting requirements under 68 O.S. 1392 from hotel products. Products includes personnel property, services, or other transactions. This exception only applies to hotels with more than twelve (12) rooms.

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

Sales Tax Exemption/Farming & Livestock: [HB 2350](#) by Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Valliant) and Sen. Chris Kidd (R-Waurika) amends the definition of "agricultural products" to include timber. It also defines "farming" or "farm" to include the production of timber, seedling production, and forestry management and the definition of "livestock" includes the breeding of game animals, which are animals bred to be hunted for sport or food.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 70 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

Governmental Tort Claims Act/Increases: [HB 2373](#) by Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) amends Section 154 of Title 51 by increasing the limits of liability of the Governmental Tort Claims Act. For a single claim from a single act, occurrence or accident, the amount is increased from One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00) to Three Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000.00). The limited liability cap for the state, city, or county with a population of three hundred thousand (300,000) or

more is increased from One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) to Five Hundred Thousand Dollars. For medical negligence, the amount is increased from Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) to Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00). For multiple claims from a single act, occurrence or accident, the cap is increased from One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00). A claim for a wrongful conviction is increased from One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) to Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00). Claims against physicians and interns of medical education programs cap is increased from One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday with the title stricken on the floor by a [vote](#) of 87 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/CLEET: [HB 2374](#) by Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) and Sen. Michael Brooks (D-OKC) allows counties or municipalities to contract with authorized entities for non-classroom law enforcement education training.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 84 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Motorcycle Profiling: [HB 2426](#) by Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Cody Rogers (R-Tulsa) prohibits law enforcement agencies from engaging in motorcycle profiling in Oklahoma.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 58 to 29. The bill moves to the Senate.

Public Finance/Local Government Investment Pools: [HB 2538](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Chris Kidd (R-Waurika) requires any pooled investment program for a county, city, or town to be governed through an interlocal cooperative agreement. The governing body of the local government must amend their written investment policies prior to participating in a

qualified program. The bill allows investment purchases by a qualified program to bypass existing investment restrictions.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 82 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

Construction Industries Board/OUBCC: [HB 2556](#) by Rep. Mark McBride (R-Moore) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) authorizes the Construction Industries Board to implement the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC). The bill also repeals the Chief Executive Officer and legal advisor positions for OUBCC.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 52 to 35. The bill moves to the Senate.

Peer Support Counseling: [HB 2591](#) by Rep. John Talley (R-Stillwater) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) deletes provisions when peer support counseling sessions conducted by an employee or other person should apply to include when there is any admission of criminal conduct or any admission of a plan to commit a future crime.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 82 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

Fire Investigations: [HB 2757](#) by Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes the fire chief in every city, town or district in which a fire department is established or the mayor of the city or town where no fire department exists, or the sheriff of the county by which property has been destroyed or damaged to investigate as to whether the cause of the fire was accidental or intentional within forty-eight (48) hours of such fire. The officer making the investigation of fires shall within a week of the occurrence of the fire complete a written statement of all acts relating to the cause and origin of the fire and shall within forty-eight (48) hours of the occurrence of such fire report to the State Fire Marshal all civilian and firefighter injuries and fatalities resulting from the occurrence of such fire.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 72 to 7. The bill moves to the Senate.

OSBI/Alaunna Raffield Fund: [HB 2851](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) requires the OSBI to establish the Alaunna Raffield Fund to assist in training other law enforcement officers. The Fund shall be administered and utilized by the OSBI in amounts as directed by the Legislature for such purpose. Monies allocated shall be utilized to assist law enforcement partners with the cost of attending trainings facilitated by the OSBI. Each year, scholarship opportunities shall be afforded to county and municipal law enforcement agencies to attend accredited trainings conducted by the OSBI. The OSBI is authorized to promulgate agency rules for the administration of the Fund and determination of scholarship awards.

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

Sales Tax Exemption/Manufacturing: [SB 113](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) and Rep. Gerrid Kendrix (R-Altus) amends Section 1359(7) of Title 68 by removing the sales and use tax exemption for sales of tangible personal property to a qualified manufacturer to be consumed or incorporated in a new manufacturing facility or to expand an existing facility. The bill also repeals Section 1359.1 of Title 68 which provides for refund procedures for the qualified manufacturer sales and use tax exemption.

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

Law Enforcement/School Drills: [SB 169](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Rep. Ty Burns (R-Pawnee) requires law enforcement officers and emergency medical service providers that serve an area in which a school district is located to be present and directly involved in minimum of one (1) security drill. School districts shall notify law enforcement officers and emergency medical service providers at least forty-eight (48) hours before conducting a security drill which they are expected to attend.

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

Law Enforcement/Mental Health Transports: [SB 286](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) for purposes of transportation completed by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) or an entity contracted by DMHSAS, the use of mechanical restraints shall not be applied to an individual being transported unless: the individual being transported physically assaults or attempts to physically assault the person lawfully conducting the transportation of the individual and he person lawfully conducting the transportation believes such restraints are necessary for the safety of himself or herself or the protection of others, or the individual being transported attempts or causes serious physical injury to self and the person lawfully conducting the transportation believes such restraints are necessary for the safety of the individual being transported or the individual being transported has a propensity toward violence as indicated by past transports, criminal charges, or mental health history and as identified in the transport request form, and the person lawfully conducting the transportation believes such restraints are necessary for the safety of himself or herself, for the safety of the individual being transported, or for the protection of others.”. The mechanical restraint shall be continued for no longer than is necessary. Every use of a mechanical restraint, the reasons and the length of time, shall be made a part of the clinical record of the consumer under the signature of the individual responsible for the transportation as required by this section.

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

Retirement Systems/IRS Regulations: [SB 434](#) by Sen. John Montgomery (R-Lawton) and Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) requires each state retirement system, including OPERS, Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, Teachers Retirement System, OLERS, OKFPRS, and OPPRS, to adopt any administrative rules deemed necessary by the system to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements of the IRS.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 42 to 4. The bill moves to the House.

Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act: [SB 497](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Lawton) expands the term “excavate” as it relates to the Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act to include the moving of earth by tools manipulated only by human power for burying communication lines of a communications provider in a private or public easement or right-of-way when depth is not greater than twelve (12) inches and within twelve (12) inches of a communications provider terminal. The bill also adds the design or survey means a notice to facility operators to provide underground facility information during the design or engineering phase of a project to mitigate potential impact to existing underground facilities. When a design or survey notice is received, operators or their designee must provide underground facilities information with fourteen (14) calendar days from the time of the request which may include physical markings at the project site, facility mapping, or both. No excavation may take place on a design or survey notice. Operators shall provide the one-call notification center with the necessary information for notices to be sent to the appropriate person within their company or organization.

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

Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Act/Assistance: [SB 499](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Lawton) makes failure of any state agency, county, city, town, school district, institutions of higher education, public trusts other entities or instrumentalities of local government and Internet service providers to submit any lawful information requested by the Oklahoma Broadband Office will result in an Internet service provider or public entity ineligible to receive any grant or other assistance from the Office for a period of one (1) year.

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

Crime Scenes/Public Records: [SB 722](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) and Rep. Josh Cantrell (R-Kingston) prohibits any first responder or scene support personnel from releasing public scene specific information or transmitting to a social media site any photographic image or video taken at a collision or crime scene without prior authorization from the investigating agency. The bill clarifies that the provisions of this bill do not prevent the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation or the Oklahoma Highway Patrol from transmitting information when a law enforcement agency requests investigative assistance. Anyone who violates this act is subject to a maximum fine of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and/or a term of imprisonment in county jail not to exceed one (1) year, or both.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 8. The bill moves to the House.

Law Enforcement/Canine Cooperative Grant Program: [SB 725](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) and Rep. Josh Cantrell (R-Kingston) creates the Canine Cooperative Grant Program. The fund shall be a continuing fund consisting of all monies received from legislative appropriations, private donations, and federal grant programs. DPS is directed to promulgate rules to create the Canine Cooperative Grant Program to provide financial assistance for state, county, and municipal law enforcement entities for acquisition and training of law enforcement canines; provided, canines shall be trained at FEMA certified facilities and shall be specifically allocated for law enforcement officers. The programs shall have the following annual limits for grants: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per state law enforcement; Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per county sheriff and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per municipal police department for canine purchases or canine training.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 0. The bill moves to the House.