

08-23

March 24, 2023

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

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### Deadline Marked Success for OML Priorities

Thursday's deadline marked success for OML priorities. After the midway mark, the Legislature has approximately 800 bills to consider with 200 bills that failed to make the deadline to cross the rotunda. The next deadline is April 13, when bills and joint resolutions must be heard in a committee of the opposite chamber. Of those bills, OML's priorities that passed this week are as follows (descriptions in Bills on the Move):

- **Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act/Drug Diversion Programs:** [HB 1615](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen and Sen. Brent Howard
- **Open Meetings Act/Public Health Emergency:** [HB 2108](#) by Rep. Daniel Pae and Sen. Brent Howard
- **Firearms/Municipal Carry:** [HB 2136](#) by Rep. Kevin McDugle and Sen. Blake Stephens
- **Abandoned Property/Liens:** [HB 2361](#) by Rep. Brad Boles and Sen. Jessica Garvin
- **Law Enforcement/Drug Offenses:** [SB 108](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom and Rep. Ross Ford
- **Open Records Act/Confidential Records:** [SB 715](#) by Sen. Kay Floyd and Rep. Mark Lawson

### PTSD for First Responders Passed House

[HB 2398](#) by Rep. Neil Hays (R-Muskogee) and Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) amends Worker's Compensation in 85A O.S. Section 13 authorizing mental injury or illness as a compensable injury, without a physical injury, for a first responder who suffers post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) after responding to an emergency. The bill defines "first responder" as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician on a full-time basis by a municipality, county, or the State of Oklahoma, or a volunteer firefighter. The employer must provide reasonable and necessary medical treatment subject to the Fee Schedule for workers' compensation for a period not to exceed one (1) year, if it is determined the first responder has suffered PTSD not accompanied by a physical injury.

The employer is not responsible for prescription medication more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000). The bill provides compensation if the first responder is temporarily unable to perform his job or any alternative work offered by the employer, the employer shall pay to maintain health insurance coverage.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 84 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

### **Grocery Sales Tax Exemption Passes House without Senate Author**

In a rare move, the House passed [HB 1955](#) by Speaker Charles McCall without a Senate author. This proposal passed by a [vote](#) of 88 to 7 and now heads to the Senate. The bill requires on or after the effective date of this act, an excise tax to be zero percent (0%) imposed upon all retail sales of food and food ingredients sold for human consumption off the premises where sold. Any sales tax or excise levied by a city, town, county, or any other jurisdiction in this state upon sales of food and food ingredients shall be in effect regardless of ordinance or contractual provisions referring to previously imposed state sales tax on the items. On or after the effective date of this act, until June 30, 2025, a county or a municipality that submits the question of a sales tax or excise tax to its voters shall provide that the increased rate does not apply to "food and food ingredients" as term is defined in Section 1352 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. OTC must promulgate any necessary rules to implement the provisions of this section in accordance with the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement.

The proposed fiscal impact to the State is a decrease of Three Hundred Seventy Million Three Hundred Thirty-three Thousand Dollars (\$370,333,000.00).

## **BILLS ON THE MOVE**

### ***Snapshot of bills impacting cities and towns***

**Law Enforcement/Catalytic Converter Theft:** [HB 1328](#) by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) provides that any equipment used or intended to be used to commit any act of

catalytic converter theft, copper theft, and any violation of the Oklahoma Scrap Metal Dealers Act, including any monies derived from proceeds due to catalytic converter theft, copper theft, or violations of the Oklahoma Scrap Metal Dealers Act are subject to forfeiture.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 92 to 6. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Oklahoma 9-1-1 Management Authority Training:** [HB 1590](#) by Rep. Jim Grego (R-Wilburton) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) requires the Oklahoma 9-1-1 Management Authority to maintain an online training platform for 9-1-1 Emergency Telecommunicators in Oklahoma. The Authority shall create, maintain, and certify a list of qualified online and in-person training programs that include, the basic requirement for a 9-1-1 Emergency Telecommunicator. Classes must be forty (40) hours in length and include instruction for basic call handling and dispatch services. The Authority shall establish hourly training requirements on a yearly basis. On or before July 1, 2024, all Emergency Telecommunicators must complete, either in person or virtual, a forty-eight (48) hour state recognized training course for basic call handling and dispatch. Any new Emergency Telecommunicator hired after January 1, 2024, must complete the training six (6) months after they are hired. On or before July 1, 2024, all Emergency Telecommunicators must complete, either in person or virtual, a state or nationally recognized telecommunicator CPR training course. If the state or an area of the state is utilizing Next Generation 9-1-1 system that uses the NENA i3 standard for call delivery, then the service company must provide the required data elements required by said standard. The bill amends the members of 9-1-1 Management Authority and names those members removed as nonvoting members. The fees are increased from seventy-five cents (\$.75) to One Dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25). The distribution of revenue from 9-1-1 fees has also been modified. Eligible governing bodies are to be given a flat rate of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) per month per Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Of the remaining revenue, ten percent (10%) will be distributed based on response area and ninety percent (90%) will be distributed based on

population. A new public safety answering point (PSAP) shall not be established after July 1, 2024, unless the new PSAP is established as a result of: 1) a consolidation with an existing PSAP; or 2) a replacement of an existing PSAP.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 68 to 22. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Shooting into Buildings:** [HB 1612](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) adds shooting into a dwelling, or a building used for public or business purposes, as provided for in Section 1289.17A of this title or any attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation thereof to the required sentence of eighty-five percent of imprisonment.

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

**Law Enforcement/Larceny:** [HB 1613](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) modifies the penalties for larceny of merchandise from a retailer. It increases the imprisonment from thirty (30) days to one (1) year and a fine from Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the first conviction. For the second conviction, larceny of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or less, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a term of not less than one (1) year and by a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00); larceny of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or more and the person shall be guilty of a felony and custody in DOC for a term not to exceed three (3) years and a fine not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00); or both.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 71 to 15. The bill moves to the Senate.

**(OML Priority) Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act/Drug Diversion Programs:** [HB 1615](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) authorizes any person who is convicted, receives a deferred sentence, or receives a suspended sentence for an offense,

excluding the use of marijuana, and receives a second conviction within ten (10) years for an offense, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition, the person may be required to complete a substance abuse assessment or evaluation and follow the recommendation subsequent thereto and complete a drug diversion program for up to one (1) year following the date of conviction as ordered by the court. If the person refuses or fails to complete the drug diversion program, the person may subject to the terms of punishment provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection. If a person receives a third or subsequent conviction within ten (10) years for an offense may complete a drug diversion program for up to three (3) years following the date of the conviction. If the court has the discretion to require any of the drug diversion options outlined in subparagraphs a and b of paragraphs 2 and 3 of subsection B of this section, as a component of a sentence, deferred sentence, or suspended sentence. Violations under this section shall be referred to the state or to a municipal court of record for prosecution. If prosecution is refused by the state, the offense may be prosecuted in a municipal court not of record. Municipal courts may adopt ordinances consistent with the provisions of this section of law.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 65 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Business Transactions/Legal Tender:** [HB 1633](#) by Rep. Clay Staires (R-Skiatook) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) prohibits businesses providing basic needs and government entities from requiring customers to pay for goods and services using credit cards or any form of digital currency, so they must always accept cash payment without charging any cash penalties. The provisions of this bill do not apply to online or over-the-phone purchases, parking lots, wholesale or membership-based retail stores, and goods sold exclusively through a membership model requiring payment through a mobile device application. The bill establishes fines for violations to be enforced by the Attorney General.

The bill passed the House on Thursday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 79 to 11. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Oklahoma Self-Defense Act:** [HB 1789](#) by Rep. Danny Williams (R-Seminole) and Sen. Nathan Dahm (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes a citizen or lawful permanent resident who can lawfully purchase or possess a firearm, to carry or transport a concealed or unconcealed firearm. The bill removes the requirement for a person to receive a handgun license from OSBI as well as the age limit and military identification. An individual is authorized to carry as long as they are in possession of a state photo identification card, driver license, or valid handgun license. The firearm must be concealed or unconcealed in compliance with the laws of this state. When coming into contact with law enforcement officer and upon instruction from the law enforcement officer, the person must disclose the fact that he or she is in possession of a firearm.

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

**Hazard Mitigation Financial Assistance:** [HB 1928](#) by Rep. Lonnie Sims (R-Jenks) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) creates the Hazard Mitigation Financial Assistance Fund within the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) for the purpose of providing grants for hazard mitigation. In addition to other lawful purposes, monies placed in the Fund, exclusive of such amounts of interest derived from investment deposits necessary to maintain the grant account, may be used by OWRB to implement hazard mitigation planning and projects. Eligible entities are able to use the grants to develop an approved local/regional hazard mitigation planning document, acquire land or conservation easements to mitigate hazards, and implement voluntary incentive-based hazard mitigation measures to facilitate compliance with state or national regulations. The bill also clarifies language and broadens the applicability of this measure from flood hazard mitigation projects to include other hazard mitigation projects.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 89 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

**OWRB/Permit Fees:** [HB 1940](#) by Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) and Sen. Greg McCortney (R-Ada) requires OWRB to modify its rules to establish a flat fee for both regular and temporary permits. The fee may be the same for both regular and temporary permits. The permit fees shall not increase or decrease in proportion to the volume of water permitted or for any other reason.

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

**Wastewater Treatment Plants/DEQ Requirements:** [HB 1943](#) by Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) exempts any new rules promulgated by DEQ to apply to the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant following the approval of an application for the construction of any new wastewater treatment plant by a municipality, county, or water district until after the expiration of a term of fifteen (15) years. Following the expiration, the operator shall be required to update the plant to conform with current DEQ rules to remain in compliance.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 85 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

**County Sales Tax/Emergency Medical Services:** [HB 1967](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) authorizes any county to levy a sales tax of not to exceed one percent (1%) upon the gross proceeds or gross receipts derived from all sales in the county upon which a consumer's sales tax is levied. The proceeds will be used solely for the purpose of emergency medical services. Before the sales tax may be levied by the county, the imposition of the tax shall first be approved by fifty percent (50%) of the registered voters of the county at a special election called by resolution of the board of county commissioners.

The bill was [amended](#) and added passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 90 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.



**Law Enforcement/DPS/Investigations:** [HB 1976](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) authorizes the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to perform assessments and investigations into terrorism, threats to public safety, organized crime, criminal conspiracies, or other threats of violent crime; collect information concerning individuals believed to be engaged in terrorism, threats to public safety, Organized crime, criminal conspiracies, or any other threats of violent crime; coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies to protect citizens from terrorism, threats to public safety, organized crime, criminal conspiracies, or any other threats of violent crime by creating a clearinghouse of crime-related information.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 75 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Municipal Code Lien Enforcement Act of 2023:** [HB 2038](#) by Rep. Monroe Nichols (D-Tulsa) and Sen. Kevin Matthews (D-Tulsa) creates the Municipal Code Lien Enforcement Act of 2023. This shall apply to any municipal governing body that adopts the provisions of this act and are applicable to the collection of municipal code liens as to real property, other than owner-occupied property, in the municipality. The provisions do not apply to owner-occupied property. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any fees, penalties, and abatement costs imposed against property other than owner-occupied real property for violations of a municipality's housing and building codes adopted by the State may be enforced in rem as a lien. Every municipal code lien shall be superior to all other liens, except those liens for taxes described or reference in Section 3103 of Title 68. The bill sets up a process for rights and remedies for the governmental entities to enforce municipal ordinances and shall not extend to any nongovernmental transferee of municipal code liens.

The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 59 to 33. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Verbal Warnings:** [HB 2041](#) by Rep. Monroe Nichols (D-Tulsa) and Pro Tempore

Greg Treat (R-OKC) allows a law enforcement officer who comes into contact with a person who has a misdemeanor warrant to issue a verbal warning about the existence of the warrant and advise the defendant to contact the clerk of the court to resolve the outstanding warrant. All verbal warnings shall be documented by law enforcement on a department-issued warning ticket or arrest the defendant and take him before a magistrate in that county.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 91 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Pointing a Weapon/Self-Defense:** [HB 2051](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) modifies the penalties for pointing a weapon. If an individual is acting in self-defense or to home or business owners in defense of their private property, whether or not they possess a valid handgun license pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, cannot be punished of a crime. When it comes to felony pointing, it is lawful to point a firearm, knife or other deadly weapon at another person by a person who can legally own or possess a weapon, a person in the defensive display of a firearm or other deadly weapon, law enforcement authorities in the performance of their duties, armed security guards licensed by CLEET, members of the state and federal military in performance of their duties, any federal government law enforcement officer in the performance of any duty, or any person during the performance of a play on stage, while participating in a rodeo, or in a television program or project. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully and without lawful cause point a firearm, knife or any other deadly weapon, whether loaded or not, at any person or persons for the purpose of threatening or with the intention of discharging the firearm or with any malice or for any purpose of injuring, either through physical injury or mental or emotional intimidation, or for purposes of whimsy, humor or prank, or in anger or otherwise. The defensive display of a firearm or other deadly weapon by a person is justified when and to the extent a reasonable person believes that physical force is immediately necessary to protect himself, herself or another person against the use or attempted use of

unlawful physical or deadly force by a person, premises owner or controller in self-defense, or in defense of real or private property, located on any premises, owned, rented, leased or occupied by permission of the premise owner or controller, whether or not a person is in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and shall not be deemed a criminal act. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a person who: a) intentionally provokes another person to use or attempt to use lawful physical or deadly force; or b) uses a firearm during the commission of an unlawful act involving force or violence. The bill defines "defensive display of a firearm" and "occupied premises".

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 74 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**OWRB/Groundwater Permits:** [HB 2053](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) provides that a party protesting the application based solely on the industry or entity to use the water is not an interested party when it comes to protesting the permit. Determination that waste will or will not occur by DEQ or the State Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry is solely within the respective agency's jurisdiction and may not be protested through OWRB's hearing on the application nor may an Oklahoma court order OWRB to hold a hearing over the determination of DEQ or Dept. of Agriculture. If the Board's final action to approve an application is appealed, the applicant may take and use groundwater as is set forth under the permit while any appeals are pending with the Board, in district court, or in the appellate courts. If all statutory requirements for groundwater permits are fulfilled and the Board approves the application, appeals seeking to prohibit the use of water based solely on the category of beneficial use, industry, or entity applying to use the water are considered to have no genuine issue as to any material fact and shall be dismissed pursuant to Section 2056 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Further, such claims shall be considered frivolous, and the court may impose sanctions against the appellant, the appellant's attorney, or both including requiring the appellant

to reimburse the appellee for reasonable costs and expenses such as reasonable attorney fees and other expenses incurred as a result of the appeal.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 74 to 11. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Planning & Zoning/Comprehensive Plans:** [HB 2089](#) by Rep. Jon Echols (R-OKC) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) provides that municipal zoning decisions are legislative in nature and valid unless the challenging party proves the ordinance lacks a substantial relation to the public health, safety, or general welfare of the public in light of objective and relevant facts, or if the decision constitutes an unreasonable, arbitrary exercise of police power. If the validity of a challenged zoning ordinance or zoning decision is fairly debatable, in light of objective and relevant facts, the legislative judgment of the municipality must stand. The bill also establishes that municipal platting decisions are quasi-judicial in nature and gives the Planning Commission and the City Council of a municipality the discretion to determine a plats compliance with regulations, codes, and ordinances. In the case of a preliminary or final plat denial, the objecting governing body member is required to identify their basis for denial. Comprehensive plans are allowed to be used as a guide when making zoning or plat decisions, but decisions are required to be based on objective and relevant facts and municipal code.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 81 to 12. The bill moves to the Senate.

**(OML Priority) Open Meetings Act/Public Health Emergency:** [HB 2108](#) by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) provides a definition for "public health emergency" to mean a situation where the circumstances lead state or local elected officials, as applicable to this act, to determine a risk of death or significant harm to the human population of the state or particular applicable political subdivision. A locally declared state of emergency declared by a mayor or chairperson of a board of county commissioners but shall not continue for more than thirty (30) days without ratification of the respective public body. The emergency may be extended for a maximum of

ninety (90) days with ratification of the respective body, and each extension shall not continue for more than thirty (30) days unless such state of emergency is concurrently declared by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma covering the applicable political subdivision. Public bodies, unless specifically exempted, may conduct meetings and executive sessions utilizing digital means subject to the following requirements: any member participating in a meeting utilizing electronic means must confirm by audio or visual affirmation to the public to be the actual member of the governing body and may only participate from a fixed location; documents provided digitally during a meeting utilizing electronic means must be made available in accordance with lawfully adopted policies of the governing body in the open records requirements; any governing body making a good faith effort to comply is immune from liability for any attorney's fees connected with litigation for a failure to comply with this section; and minutes must be prepared in compliance with state and local laws. The bill requires the video of the meeting to be made available at least seven (7) business days after the meetings become official if the public body maintains a website, has dedicated information technology employees, and has immediate access to high-speed internet connections. Meetings held without a physical meeting place open to the public shall be streamed at no charge. The public may be allowed to participate to the extent such participation is consistent with previously adopted statutes, rules, or policy. No private electronic communications concerning public business may occur during a public meeting amongst the governing body.

The bill passed the House on Thursday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 92 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Assistance for Drug or Alcohol Overdose:** [HB 2110](#) by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) prohibits a peace officer from taking into custody a person who administers naloxone hydrochloride to, an individual, including himself or herself, who appeared to need medical assistance due to a drug or alcohol overdose. A person who meets the

criteria shall not be subject to revocation or probation, pretrial release, or parole, or otherwise penalized, nor shall the person's property be subject for forfeiture based solely on this offense. The act of seeking emergency medical assistance for someone who is experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose shall be considered by court as a mitigating factor in any criminal prosecution for which immunity is not provided.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 72 to 21. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Police Pension & Retirement System:** [HB 2131](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Shane Jett (R-Shawnee) requires the employer and employee contributions to the Oklahoma Police Pension Retirement System (OPPRS) to be remitted online. The bill prohibits any of the funds of the System to be applied to a Child Support Enforcement Division order for a support arrearage pursuant to Section 240.23 of Title 56 of the Oklahoma Statutes and current child support payments made pursuant to a valid court order.

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

**(OML Priority) Firearms/Municipal Carry:** [HB 2136](#) by Rep. Kevin McDugle (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Blake Stephens (R-Tahlequah) authorizes the governing body of a city or town to authorize the concealed carry of handguns into any structure, building or office space, except those places listed in paragraph 2 of this subsection, which is owned or leased by a city or town. Municipalities are given the authority to allow certain employees or public officials of the municipality, municipal trust, or municipal authority who possess a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and who have successfully completed any additional training or requirements, as established by ordinance or resolution, to carry a concealed or unconcealed handgun or other firearm when acting in the scope and course of employment. For purposes of this subsection, firearms may not be present in a location that is a firearm-prohibited location. As used in this

paragraph, "firearm-prohibited location" shall include any building or room on municipally owned, leased, or maintained property designated as a firearm-prohibited location by the municipality, municipal public trust, or municipal authority. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as a mechanism to allow municipal employees to carry a firearm as a duty or function of their employment with the municipality, municipal public trust, or municipal authority.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 77 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/School Property:** [HB 2139](#) by Rep. Kevin McDugle (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) authorizes a board of education of a school district to adopt a policy for school personnel to carry a handgun on public school property.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 79 to 20. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/DUI/Tracking Application:** [HB 2151](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) the bill creates the Drunk Impaired Accountability Law (DIAL). It requires the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to offer the contract to an existing state vendor with similar experience to develop a cellular phone application that allows for the tracking of individuals convicted of the offense of driving while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances. The cellular phone application shall be installed on the cellular telephone of individuals convicted of the offense of driving under the influence. The app shall: allow for information relating to the individual's real-time and past location to be available to any state or municipal law enforcement agency personnel; allow law enforcement personnel to locate previous offenders in his or her immediate area; and not allow for an individual's name or identifying information to be seen on the tracking device used by law enforcement officers. The location of the individual can only be visible to law enforcement personnel as a dot on the screen with no identifying information. The location information provided to law enforcement is not to be considered probable cause for the stop of an

individual. For the first offense of an offender the option of having a track application installed on his or her cellular telephone for a period of one (1) year if agreed to by a district attorney and for subsequent offenses the app can be installed for a period of five (5) years.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the House on Thursday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 54 to 28. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Larceny:** [HB 2153](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) lowers the threshold amount that constitutes grand larceny from One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00). Upon a third or subsequent conviction of petit larceny, the person shall be found guilty of a felony.

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

**Public Retirement Systems:** [HB 2171](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) authorizes a retirement benefit increase for members of the Systems that have been retired for two (2) or more years as of the effective date of the benefit increase. The retirement benefit increase shall be One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) or greater but shall not exceed Three Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$3,200.00). Provided, however, that retired members who are seventy-five (75) years of age or older shall receive Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), which shall not be included in the benefit amount limitation, in addition to the retirement benefit increase to be calculated. The retirement benefit increase shall not be a modification of the final average compensation used in order to compute the benefit of the member. The retirement benefit increase may only be computed by using the then-applicable gross annual retirement benefit of the member divided by the whole number twelve (12). The resulting amount may be paid to the retired member in addition to other retirement benefits.



The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 79 to 7. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Eminent Domain:** [HB 2191](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) prohibits the taking of private property or damaged by a condemning authority unless the taking or damage is necessary for public use and with just compensation. The public purpose or public benefit of economic development, including an increase in tax base, tax revenues, employment, or general economic health, does not constitute a public use. Nothing in subsection A shall be construed to prohibit a taking of private property for public uses because the public use also provides ancillary economic benefits. The court shall strictly construe eminent domain statutes in favor of the property owner and against the condemning authority. A governmental body subordinate to the state may not exercise, create, extend, or expand a power of eminent domain in the absence of statutory authority. Additional procedures, remedies, or limitations that do not deny or diminish the substantive and procedural rights and protections of property owners under this section may be provided by other law, ordinance, or charter. The bill also provides definitions for abandoned property, blighted property, and public use.

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

**Firearms/Contractual Requirements:** [HB 2218](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) prohibits any governmental entity entering into a contract with a company for the purchase of goods or services unless the contract contains a written verification from the company that it does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and will not discriminate during the term of the contract against a firearm entity or firearm trade association. The provisions of this bill shall apply to companies with ten (10) full-time employees and has a value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) that is paid wholly or partly from public funds of the governmental entity. The provisions of subsection C of this section shall not apply to a governmental

entity that contracts with a sole-source supplier or after requesting bids, only receives bids from companies that do not comply with provisions of subsection C of this section. It is up to the Central Purchasing Division of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall have the authority and responsibility of reviewing state governmental contracts to confirm that the requirements of subsection C of this section have been provided. A governmental entity shall utilize its current method of processing and analyzing the provisions within a contractual agreement and shall confirm that the required written verification has been included and made a part of the contractual agreement. The provisions of this section shall only apply to financial institutions that have Fifty Billion Dollars (\$50,000,000,000.00) or more in assets.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 74 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**TSET/Investments:** [HB 2254](#) by Rep. Ty Burns (R-Pawnee) and Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) requires the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET) to invest at least four percent (4%) of funds in eligible Oklahoma venture capital entities as identified by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 54 to 37. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Open Records Act/Public Access Counselor/AG's Office:** [HB 2287](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) and Sen. Greg McCortney (R-Ada) creates the position of a Public Access Counselor in the Office of the Attorney General. Any person whose request to inspect or copy a public record is denied by a public body, except the Legislature and committees, commissions, and agencies thereof, may file a request for review with the Public Access Counselor not later than sixty (6) days after the date of the final denial. The request for review must be in writing, signed by the requester, and include: a copy of the request for the access to records and any response from the public body. A person who makes the request for commercial purpose may not file a request for review. If the public body treats the request for review as a commercial purpose, the individual may file a request with the Public Access

Counselor to review whether the public body properly determined the request. The Public Access Counselor must forward a copy of the request for the public body to review within seven (7) business days after receipt and specify the records or other documents that the public body shall furnish to facilitate the review. If the public body fails to respond, the AG may issue a subpoena to any person or public body having knowledge of or records pertaining to a request for review of a denial of access to records. There is a process for extending the time by the Public Access Counselor with notification to the requester and public body. The opinion shall be binding upon both the requester and the public body. Upon receipt of the binding opinion, the public body must either take necessary action to comply or file suit in the proper district court. The AG may also issue advisory opinions to public bodies regarding compliance with this act.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 91 to 4. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Tax Administration:** [HB 2289](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) requires an individual or sole proprietor who obtains a sales tax permit to be at least eighteen (18) years of age. A parent or legal guardian may apply for a permit on behalf of an individual or sole proprietor who is not at least eighteen (18) years of age, provided the parent or legal guardian will be considered the authorized user responsible for remitting state tax. The bill specifies that at least ten (10) days prior to the start of a special event, the organizer or promotor must submit a list of all vendors registered to attend the event. Each list must contain the vendor's name, address, telephone number, email address, and taxpayer identification number. If a vendor holds an Oklahoma sales tax permit, the permit numbers must also be included. The bill authorizes the county treasurer to notify OTC within thirty (30) days after the resale of any tract or lot of land and shall include in such notification all information necessary for the OTC to determine whether a tax lien exists on the subject property. Within sixty (60) days of receipt of the notification, OTC shall provide notice to the county treasurer of any outstanding liabilities, including tax, penalty

and interest, attached to each tract or lot of land, regardless of whether a tax warrant has been filed. Upon timely notice of a liability from OTC, the county treasurer shall remit to OTC the amount of the outstanding tax liabilities or the excess proceeds, whichever is less. Any remaining proceeds shall be held in the separate fund for the record owner of such land.

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

**Oklahoma Rural Highway Improvements for Safety Act:** [HB 2352](#) by Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Tahlequah) and Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) creates the Oklahoma Rural Highway Improvements for Safety Act. Effective November 1, 2023, ODOT shall implement a plan to add a minimum of two hundred fifty (250) center-line miles of upgrades for rural two-lane highways with deficient shoulders to the eight-year Construction Work Plan (CWP) each year. The new projects shall be spread across all transportation districts and selected based on the factors of historic fatality rates, traffic counts, and connectivity rural communities. Areas experiencing traffic growth pattern over the past five (5) years have priority.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 88 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate.

**(OML Priority) Abandoned Property/Liens:** [HB 2361](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) requires there to be a reserve minimum bid placed in an amount covering all taxes, abatement costs, penalties, interest, costs due to a municipality if the right to exercise the reserve minimum bid is noticed to the county treasurer. However, the property must be bid off in the name of the municipality if demand is made in writing by a municipality which has outstanding liens upon the property. In cases of nuisance property, the county treasurer shall have discretion not to bid off the property, unless the demand is made in writing by a municipality which has outstanding liens upon the property. Nuisance property definition is expanded to add property in which abatement liens have been placed upon the property by a municipality in

excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the property's fair market value as shown by the county assessor's office.

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

**EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact:** [HB 2422](#) by Rep. Arturo Alonso (D-OKC) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) creates the Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact to protect the public through verification of competency and ensure accountability for patient care-related activities all state-licensed EMS personnel.

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

**Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission:** [HB 2425](#) by Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Blake Stephens (R-Tahlequah) requires amendments or modifications to the currently adopted state codes shall be forwarded to OUBCC.

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

**Preemption/Childcare Facilities:** [HB 2452](#) by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (D-Tulsa) and Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) prohibits local governing authorities from promulgating local regulations that permit or require licensees of family childcare homes to exceed or limit the capacity provided by the license granted to the family childcare home licensee by DHS.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 92 to 5. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Performance Based Efficiency Contracts:** [HB 2472](#) by Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) allows the public entity to make an initial payment from any funds available on a performance-based efficiency contract.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 94 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Handle with Care Program:** [HB 2513](#) by Rep. Ajay Pittman (D-OKC) and Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) directs the State Department of Education, in conjunction with OSBI, establish a Handle with Care Program. The Handle with Care Program shall enable a law enforcement officer or employee of a law enforcement agency to notify the program when a child, who may attend a public school in the state, is exposed to a traumatic event or other event that may affect his or her ability to succeed at school. The Program shall administer a telephone hotline or other appropriate method to allow a law enforcement officer or agency to provide notification that may include basic information about the traumatic event. The bill establishes procedures for law enforcement to collaborate with teachers or other members of the school system to reduce the negative impact of the traumatic event. Nothing shall be construed to require a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency to provide notification if the disclosure may compromise an ongoing investigation.

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

**Law Enforcement/Firearms/Use of Defensive Force:** [HB 2532](#) by Rep. JJ Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) modifies the definition of "person" to mean every natural person, including peace officer when it comes to use defensive force when they knew or had reasonable belief that someone was attempting to enter into a dwelling, residence, occupied vehicle, place of business or worship for the purpose of committing a felony.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 70 to 19. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Loitering/Critical Infrastructure:** [HB 2536](#) by Rep. JJ Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) provides criminal liability for loitering upon property containing a critical infrastructure facility without permission. The bill defines "loiter" to mean standing or waiting around idly or without apparent or rational purpose.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 72 to 22. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Excessive Force:** [HB 2537](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) clarifies the standard by which excessive force is used in the line of duty, the officer is subject to the criminal laws of this state to the same degree as any other citizen, if excessive force is established as an element of any alleged violation under the criminal laws of this state. "Law enforcement duties" means duties carried out while acting as a peace officer pursuant to Section 99a of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Each law enforcement entity which employs any peace officer shall adopt policies or guidelines concerning the use of force by peace officers employed by the entity.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 73 to 16. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Public Finance/Proxy Voting:** [HB 2547](#) by Rep. Terry O'Donnell (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Tom Woods (R-Westville) requires all shares held directly or indirectly by or on behalf of a governmental entity and/or the participants and their beneficiaries to be voted solely in the pecuniary interest of plan participants and their beneficiaries. A governmental entity is prohibited from relying on any voting decision guidance from a company on a restricted financial institution and company. A governmental entity may not grant proxy voting authority to any person who is not a part of the governmental entity. Public retirement system assets shall not be entrusted to a fiduciary unless the fiduciary has a practice of matches the governmental entity's obligation to act solely upon pecuniary factors. All proxy votes shall be tabulated and reported annually to the State Treasurer.

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

**Preemption/Firearms:** [HB 2643](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Nathan Dahm (R-Broken Arrow) establishes that a firearm, firearm part, or firearm suppressor that is manufactured in this state and remains in this state is not subject to federal law

or federal regulation. A firearm, firearm part, or firearm suppressor manufactured and sold in this state must have the words "Made in Oklahoma" clearly stamped, machined, or engraved on the firearm. The bill prohibits any governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity from adopting any rule, order ordinance or policy that enforces a federal statute, order, rule, or regulation that regulates a firearm, firearm part or firearm suppressor if the statute, order, rule, or regulation imposes a prohibition, restriction, or other regulation that does not exist under the laws of this state.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 72 to 21. . The bill moves to the Senate.

**Preemption/Firearms:** [HB 2644](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) no person, employer or business entity shall establish, maintain, or enforce any policy or rule that prohibits any person or employee, except a convicted felon, from transporting, carrying or storing firearms or ammunition in or upon a vehicle personally owned, leased, or rented by the person or employee while conducting business for the employer or business entity. An individual may bring civil action to enforce the provisions of paragraph 1 of this subsection. If a plaintiff prevails in a civil action, the court shall award actual damages, enjoin further violations, and award court costs and attorney fees to the prevailing plaintiff.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 79 to 20. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Spaces & Places:** [HB 2645](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) provides an individual to openly carry a handgun or other firearm on the "street, plaza, sidewalk, and alley" to the list of places that a city, town, county or state governmental authority may designate by statute, ordinance, resolution, policy or use as an area where a firearm may be carried. The bill also allows a person to openly carry on the property of a nonprofit entity with permission from the public trust or nonprofit entity.



The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 78 to 20. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms/Identification:** [HB 2646](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) adds the use of a state photo identification or valid driver license to be displayed on demand of a law enforcement officer during an arrest or routine traffic stop. The bill deletes procedures that allow for the dismissal of certain charges.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 76 to 16. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Firearms Manufacturer/Civil Actions:** [HB 2647](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Nathan Dahm (R-Broken Arrow) prohibits a person from bringing, filing, or maintaining any civil action or special proceeding against a firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition manufacturer, distributor, dealer, importer, exporter, or trade association or the owners, shareholders, directors, and employees of any such entity. The bill spells out the defendants right to appeal and the proceedings that occur. In any civil action or special proceeding not barred by the provisions of this section, all claims for relief contained in the complaint must be plead with specificity.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 73 to 20. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Prohibit the Private Funding of Elections Act:** [HB 2682](#) by Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) prohibits any person from offering or providing any contribution, donation, or anything else of value for purposes of conducting or administering any election. The following will not be considered a contribution, donation, or thing of value: providing space or property for use as a polling place or for in-person absentee voting for free or at below-market price; persons who volunteer as precinct officials, absentee voting board members, or as election workers; persons who volunteer to assist the county election board or the State Election Board; food or beverage items provided to precinct officials, absentee voting board members, or election officials; items of nominal value including pens, sanitizer, and

cleaning supplies; and airing or publication of public service announcements or press releases issued by the State Election Board or a county election board. Those donations that are not directly related to election administration may be accepted only upon written approval by the Governor and written notification sent to Legislature leadership. A willful and intentional violation of this act will be punishable.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 75 to 20. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Election Date Changes:** [HB 2685](#) by Rep. Neil Hays (R-Checotah) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) amends dates in which a political subdivision authorized to call elections for any purpose. Elections can be called the second Tuesday of August in an odd-numbered year and the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in an odd-numbered year. A special election called by the Governor must only be set on the second Tuesday of January, February, May, June, July, August, September, and October and the first Tuesday in March and April as well as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in odd-numbered years. The Governor may call a special election on the second Tuesday of January and February, the first Tuesday in April, and the date of any regularly scheduled state or federal election. The bill removes the authorization for a municipality with a population of more than 250,000 people to hold an election on the second Tuesday or December in odd-numbered years. The bill requires that any school district, technology center district, municipality, rural fire protection district or any other entity seeking to hold a special election for the purpose of filling a vacancy must schedule a three (3) day candidate filing period that begins not more than ten (10) days following the date the resolution calling the election is required to be filed.

The bill failed the House on Wednesday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 36 to 57.

**Pensions/Oklahoma Public Finance Protection Act:** [HB 2777](#) by Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) and Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) creates the Oklahoma Public Finance Protection Act. The bill

requires fiduciaries of a pension benefit plan to vote and exercise their duties solely in the pecuniary interest of plan participants and prohibits the consideration of non-pecuniary factors unless they present economic risks or opportunities that qualified investment professionals would treat as material economic considerations under generally accepted investment theories. Plan fiduciaries considering environmental, social, corporate governance, or other similarly oriented factors as pecuniary factors must examine the level of diversification, degree of liquidity, and the potential risk-return in comparison with other available alternative investments that could play a similar role in their investment portfolio. The bill removes the practice of current proxy voting authority and assigns the voting authority to the Board of Trustees or the governing officer of each plan. A board or governing officer may delegate its voting authority to a person who has a practice of and signs a written commitment to act based only on pecuniary factors. Every proxy vote taken by the designee must be tabulated and reported annually and posted on a publicly available website. The bill also authorizes the Attorney General to examine records, conduct questioning under oath and impound documents to enforce the act.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 75 to 12. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Oklahoma Hospital Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2023:** [HB 2790](#) by Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) creates the Oklahoma Hospital Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2023. A covered entity shall create, maintain, and comply with a written cybersecurity program that protects both personal information and restricted information and that reasonably conforms to an industry recognized cybersecurity framework.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 87 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Affordable Housing/Oklahoma Housing Programs:** [HB 2870](#) by Rep. Kevin Wallace (R-Wellston) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) creates the Oklahoma Homebuilder Program to fund to help create more affordable single family housing units

across Oklahoma. The program shall be a loan program to homebuilders with interest rates as low as zero percent (0%) for urban and rural developments. The bill also establishes the Oklahoma Increased Housing Program to provide grants to build additional single and multi-family housing units and offer homebuyers down payment assistance. The Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency will promulgate rules to administer both programs.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 98 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

**Law Enforcement/Open Records/Drones:** [SB 36](#) by Sen. Nathan Dahm (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Jon Echols (R-OKC) expands the Open Records Act to require law enforcement agencies to make publicly available any audio or video recordings taken via unmanned law enforcement vehicles or drones.

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

**(OML Priority) Law Enforcement/Drug Offenses:** [SB 108](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) gives authority to the court to order a person to complete a substance abuse assessment and evaluation and a diversion program if they are found guilty of misdemeanor for possession of a controlled dangerous substance. The court may, without entering a judgment of guilty with the consent of the defendant, defer further proceeding upon the specific conditions prescribed by the court not to exceed a three (3) year period. The court is authorized to order the defendant to complete a diversion program in lieu of other punishments. The bill also provides that any person convicted of possessing or selling multiple Schedule I or Schedule II substances for the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) time within ten (10) years of the last conviction shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and required to complete a diversion program for up to one (1) year following the conviction. A third conviction shall subject the offender to a minimum of thirty (30) days in the county jail and a fine not exceeding One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). These individuals may be required to complete a diversion program for up to three (3) years. The bill provides that any person convicted of possessing or selling multiple Schedule

I or Schedule II substances for the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) time within ten (10) years of the last conviction shall be guilty of a felony and subject to a term of imprisonment not exceeding five (5) years and/or a fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 36 to 9. The bill moves to the House.

**Medical Marijuana/Setback for Religious Organizations:** [SB 116](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Danny Williams (R-Seminole) creates a one thousand (1,000) feet setback requirement from any religious organization for medical marijuana commercial grower facilities. The bill provides that facilities already licensed and located within one thousand (1,000) feet of a religious organization or located in an area in which a place of worship is established at a later date shall not be barred from license renewal.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 34 to 10. The bill moves to the House.

**Law Enforcement/Students/Violent Crime:** [SB 126](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Sherrie Conley (R-Newcastle) in the course of an arrest for a violent crime, it is discovered that the person being arrested is a student of a school district or public school in this state, the arresting law enforcement agency is required to notify the superintendent of the school district or public school in which the student is enrolled. The notification and related information of the arrest and any information regarding the adjudication of the student shall be conducted with due regard for the provisions of subsection C of Section 2-6-102 of Title 10A and shall be kept as part of the student's permanent records and included in the records provided to a receiving district should a student transfer due to the Education Open Transfer Act. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each school district shall include in its student's enrollment and transfer documentation a request for information regarding any arrest of a student for a violent crime. Failure to provide the information shall not prohibit the enrollment or transfer of the student.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 7. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Medical Marijuana/Ag Sales Tax:** [SB 133](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Mulhall) amends the definition of "agricultural products" by excluding the growing, harvesting, and processing of medical marijuana.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 35 to 10. The bill moves to the House.

**Preemption/Internal Combustion Engines & Gas Stoves:** [SB 202](#) by Sen. Nathan Dahm (R-Broken Arrow) prohibits the state or any political subdivision from outlawing the use of internal combustion engines and gas fueled stoves. The rights of individuals in Oklahoma to use internal combustion engines and gas fueled stoves shall be protected in Oklahoma.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 32 to 10. The bill moves to the House.

**Medical Marijuana/MOUs for Equipment Usage:** [SB 239](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) and Rep. Josh Cantrell (R-Kingston) allows municipalities, political subdivisions, and counties to enter into agreements or memoranda of understanding with state agencies which respond to search and seizure activities of marijuana to compensate municipalities, political subdivisions, or counties for the use of county or municipal equipment used during search and seizure events. The rate of reimbursement shall not be higher than the federal schedule rate for equipment usage.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**Law Enforcement/Mental & Behavioral Health Wellness Training:** [SB 379](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) requires each law enforcement officer certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education Training Council (CLEET) to complete a minimum of two (2) hours of continuing law enforcement education training accredited or provided by CLEET on maintaining mental and behavioral

health wellness beginning January 1, 2024, and each year thereafter. CLEET shall also include in its required courses of study for law enforcement certification a minimum of eight (8) hours' training on maintaining mental and behavioral health wellness.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 42 to 5. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Feminine Hygiene Products:** [SB 382](#) by Sen. Jessica Garvin (R-Duncan) and Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) creates the Feminine Hygiene Program under the State Department of Health. The local health departments are authorized to apply to the State Department for available funds to distribute feminine hygiene products. Local departments are authorized to partner with public schools, institutions of higher education, career tech centers, and nonprofit organizations. The bill creates the Feminine Hygiene Program Revolving Fund. Additionally, the bill creates a sales tax exemption for the sale of female hygiene products to a 501(c)(3) organization that provides feminine hygiene products free of charge directly to individuals in need.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 32 to 10. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofit Entities/Construction:** [SB 387](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Jeff Boatman (R-Tulsa) provides the exemption that includes the sales of tangible personal property or taxable services consumed or incorporated in the construction of a facility placed in service during calendar year 2023. The exemption shall include sales and taxable services to the organization and to any person, entity, contractor, or subcontractor with whom the organization has duly entered into a construction contract necessary for carrying out the contract. For sales tax paid on purchases that would otherwise be exempt but occurred before the effective date of this act, OTC shall make refunds to the purchasers in the full amount of the sales tax paid, as documented by the purchaser and verified by OTC.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 41 to 6. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofit/Training of Search and Rescue Canines & First Responder Team Training:** [SB 390](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Lone Grove) and Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) creates a new sales tax exemption for a nonprofit organization whose principal function is to strengthen emergency response to natural and man-made disasters at the local, state, and national level through the provision of highly trained search and rescue canines and first responder team training. To qualify for the exemption, the organization must provide training sufficient to pass the FEMA Certification Examination equivalent, the State Urban Search and Rescue Alliance Disaster Search Canine Evaluation Process or its equivalent or shall be a member in good standing with Oklahoma Urban Search and Rescue Task Force One.

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

**Sales Tax Exemption/Neglected Children/School Supplies:** [SB 406](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Jeff Boatman (R-Tulsa) creates a new sales tax exemption for nonprofit organizations whose principal functions of which are to prevent child abuse and neglect through education, treatment and advocacy and operates a facility that offers comprehensive community-based services for abused or neglected children from birth through eighteen (18) years of age. To be eligible for the exemption, the organization must provide the following documentation to OTC: articles of incorporation, organizational by-laws, and a notarized letter from the president or chairman of the organization stating the services provided by the organization. The sales of tangible personal property or services to or by an organization in this state which is nonprofit and provides documentation to OTC showing the organizations principal purpose is to provide school supplies or articles of clothing for underserved students attending grades pre-K through 12 at public schools. The exemption provided by this paragraph shall



include materials, supplies, and equipment used in the construction or improvement of buildings and other structures owned by the organization and operated in pursuit of the organizations primary and principal purpose. The exemption shall apply to sales to the organization and to sales to any person with whom the organization has duly entered into a construction contract, necessary for carrying out the contract or to any subcontractor to the construction contract.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 33 to 13. The bill moves to the House.

**Workers' Compensation/Cumulative Trauma:** [SB 411](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Chris Sneed (R-Fort Gibson) adds the date of injury for cumulative trauma to be the last date of injurious exposure prior to the filing date of the Employees First Notice of Claim for Compensation.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 47 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Workers' Compensation:** [SB 413](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Chris Sneed (R-Fort Gibson) the date of the injury means the date an injury is caused by an accident and date of issuance of medical benefits means the date of service of the medical benefit.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 7. The bill moves to the House.

**Law Enforcement/OK Crime Victims Compensation Act:** [SB 420](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Rep. Clay Staires (R-Skiatook) increases the window to file certain claims with the Crime Victims Compensation Board from one (1) to five (5) years, establishes the Board shall not find an injury attributable to the victim where a self-inflicted injury is a result of the crime committed against the victim, and increases compensation.

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

**Federal Energy Conservation Program/Dept. of Commerce:** [SB 433](#) by Sen. Mary Boren (D-Norman) and Rep. Forrest Bennett(D-OKC) requires the Department of Commerce to make publicly available on its website, to be updated annually, information related to federal energy efficiency incentive programs. The information provided shall include, but not be limited to: 1) information regarding ongoing programs for individual households, multi-family housing, and any other energy efficiency programs; 2) information related to Oklahoma businesses that are promoting and implementing energy efficiency incentive programs; and any other information that would promote public awareness and adoption of any available energy efficiency programs.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 43 to 2. The bill moves to the House.

**Fire Departments/Wildfire Reimbursement Revolving Fund:** [SB 492](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) creates the Wildfire Reimbursement Revolving Fund to be a continuing fund for the purpose of reimbursement of expenditures of Oklahoma fire departments who participated in extinguishment efforts of fires. The Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) for the Wildfire Reimbursement Revolving Fund.

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

**Police, Fire, and Law Enforcement Retirement Systems/IRS Compliance:** [SB 630](#) by Sen. John Montgomery (R-Lawton) and Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) updates the statutory compliance for the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System, the Oklahoma Firefighter Pension and Retirement System, and the Oklahoma Law Enforcement System with the federal regulations by the IRS.

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

**Law Enforcement/Seat Belts for 16 Years & Younger:** [SB 681](#) by Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) requires every passenger sixteen (16) years or younger in the back seat of a passenger vehicle to wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety seat belt, unless otherwise provided for in a child passenger restraint system.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 27 to 17. The bill moves to the House.

**Elections/Candidate Filing Records:** [SB 677](#) by Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) declares the candidates place of residence and mailing address are not to be a public record. However, such address information shall be provided to a candidate, candidate representative, or other lawful authority in anticipation of or as part of a contest of candidacy or contest of an election or as part of a petition challenge as provided by law.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**(OML Priority) Open Records Act/Confidential Records:** [SB 715](#) by Sen. Kay Floyd (D-OKC) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) provides that if a public body determines to keep a requested record confidential pursuant to subsection A of this section, the public body shall notify the requestor of such decision. A person denied access to records may file an action pursuant to subsection B of Section 24A.17 of this title. Upon hearing, the court may order the release of records if the court finds that the public interest in the records outweighs the privacy interest and shall order any redactions necessary to protect innocent parties. The court may award a requesting party court costs and reasonable attorney fees if it finds that the denial of access to the records by the public body was unreasonable.

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

**Oklahoma Quality Events Incentive Act:** [SB 746](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Speaker Pro Tempore Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) modifies “quality event” as it relates to the Oklahoma Quality Events

Incentive Act. The measure provides that events held in a county with a population of less than one hundred thousand (100,000) persons or in a municipality with a population of less than ten thousand (10,000) persons located in a county with a population exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) persons shall not be held more than once per year and that twenty-five percent (25%) of its attendees shall be comprised of residents from outside this state. The bill limits events held along the route of or containing within its boundaries, a National Scenic Byway or State Scenic Byway, designated pursuant to the National Scenic Byways Program, pursuant to 23 U.S.C., Section 162, one driving related event per calendar year.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday with the title restored by a [vote](#) of 39 to 6. The bill moves to the House.

**Medical Marijuana/Zoning:** [SB 801](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Rep. T.J. Marti (R-Tulsa) allows municipalities, after the effective date of this act, to modify their standard planning and zoning procedures to forbid certain zones or districts within the municipality for the operation of a marijuana-licensed premises, medical marijuana business, or any other premises where marijuana or its by-products are cultivated, grown, processed, stored, or manufactured; provided, any medical marijuana business licensed prior to the effective date of this act may continue to operate until such time they are no longer licensed by OMMA.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 40 to 5. The bill moves to the House.

**Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Act:** [SB 848](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Lawton) requires OMES to help in the manner requested within thirty (30) days of determination by the Agency that the request is able to be fulfilled. If for any reason the request cannot be fulfilled within thirty (30) days, the Oklahoma Broadband Office and OMES shall enter into a written agreement expressing an agreed upon timeline for fulfilling the needs of the Office. In the event that the request cannot be fulfilled, OMES shall respond in writing the reasoning for denial.

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

**Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Act/Reporting:** [SB 849](#) by Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Lawton) modifies reporting requirements for private providers submitted to the Oklahoma Broadband Office.

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

**Public Buildings/National Motto:** [SB 949](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) authorizes the governing body of a county or municipality shall be authorized to display the national motto of the United States in a prominently visible location in any building in its respective custody. The placement and size shall be in keeping with the placement and size of the display of the national motto in the US Capitol Visitor Center.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 41 to 7. The bill moves to the House.

**Law Enforcement/Missing Children/Manhunt:** [SB 1002](#) by Sen. Roger Thompson (R-Okemah) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes the Commissioner of DPS to investigate and cooperate with municipal or county law enforcement agencies when a manhunt or missing child situation happens in the state. Municipal or county law enforcement shall be required to notify the Commissioner, or his or her designee, within the first six (6) hours of opening the local investigation.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 47 to 0. The bill moves to the House.

**Open Meetings Act:** [SB 1055](#) by Sen. Chris Kidd (R-Waurika) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) requires the board of community action agencies to maintain a quorum of members for the entire duration of the meeting whether using an in-person site, videoconference sites or any combination of such sites to achieve a quorum. The bill also removes expired language relating to the COVID emergency.

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

**Law Enforcement/DUI Revocation:** [SB 1057](#) by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Rep. Jon Echols (R-OKC) creates the Marissa Murrow Act. The bill defines "event venue" to mean a location, property, space, premises, grounds, building or buildings, or other site that offers to the general public for rent, lease, reservation, or other contractual use, for the hosting of a function, occasion, or event, special, private, or public, of a temporary nature as a primary source of income. The location, property, space, premises, grounds, or building or buildings defined in this paragraph shall not include locations where the primary purpose is a permanent personal residence including, but not limited to, a residential home, duplex, condo, apartment building, or other place of residence or organizations exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3). A caterer shall not sell or distribute alcoholic beverages on the premises of an event venue unless the event venue holds an event venue license, which is Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). The event venue license shall authorize the holder to operate a space and provide alcoholic beverage services during events hosted on the licensed premises.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 46 to 1. The bill moves to the House.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Custom Order Manufacturing:** [SB 1068](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) modifies 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. It expands the sales tax exemption to include custom order manufacturing. The sales for use in a manufacturing operation shall be exempt for any manufacturer engaged in

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manufacturing as defined in paragraph 14 of Section 1352 of this title.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 4. The bill moves to the House.

**Small Wireless Facilities:** [SB 1099](#) by Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC) and Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) amends the time frame for an application to be processed on a nondiscriminatory basis established by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 1.6003 (c).

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

(NOTE: If a final Floor vote does not appear in the links above, it has not been yet been updated in the Legislative System.)