

03-25

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Winter Storm Doesn't Freeze Legislative Action

Despite the winter storm this week, the House and Senate were busy with passing bills through committees. This week we saw two of OML's priority bills make it through the first legislative hurdle by passing their respective committees.

(OML Priority) Sales for Resale: [SB 474](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) requires resellers to obtain a permit from 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 meet the qualifications of the exemption is a misdemeanor crime subject to a fine up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Finance Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

(OML Priority) Firearms/Municipal Carry: [SB 628](#) by Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) allows municipalities to authorize certain employees or public officials of the municipality, municipal public trust, or municipal authority who possess a valid handgun license and who have successfully completed any additional training or requirements as established by ordinance or resolution to carry a concealed handgun when acting in the course and scope of employment. Firearms may not be present in a location designated as a firearm-prohibited location. Firearm prohibited location is defined as any room, location or other place on municipally owned, leased or maintained property designated as a firearm-prohibited location by the municipal government and any police department, courthouse, courtroom, prison, jail, detention facility, or any facility used to process, hold, or house arrested persons, prisoners, or persons alleged to be delinquent or adjudicated delinquent. Nothing shall be construed to allow municipal employees to carry a firearm as a duty or function of their employment.

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A municipality may authorize the public display of a firearm inside a public building subject to policies established by the municipality, municipal public trust, or municipal authority.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

The Senators who are carrying two of OML's Priority Bills have told us that they will be on Committee Agendas next week.

(OML Priority) Municipal Ordinance & County Law Libraries: [SB 354](#) by Sen. Brian Guthrie (R-Jenks) and Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) removes the requirement that cities must deposit one copy of the permanent volume and each biennial supplement of penal ordinances to its local law library. (In Senate Local and County Government - Tuesday Afternoon)

(OML Priority) Open Records Reform: [SB 535](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) modifies provisions related to the Open Records Act, adjusting notice, transparency, fee collection and privacy standards. (In Senate Judiciary - Tuesday Afternoon)

BILLS ON THE MOVE:

Law Enforcement/Stalking Warning Letters: [HB 1002](#) by Rep. Jacob Rosecrants (D-Norman) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) requires law enforcement to notify the victim of stalking of the availability to meet with a certified domestic violence program representative. Law enforcement is required to serve a copy of the Stalking Warning Letter unless the victim requests that the letter not be served. The bill allows law enforcement to request assistance from other law enforcement agencies when serving the letter in another jurisdiction. The bill provides procedures for the service of the letter. Law enforcement is required to enter into the fact that the letter was issued into NCIC and requires a report to be submitted to the court clerk to be entered into the Supreme Court Network. The bill removes a requirement that victims file complaints with law enforcement prior to filing petitions for protective orders.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Elections/Voter ID: [HB 1005](#) by Rep. Jim Olsen (R-Roland) requires each person appearing to vote in any election conducted after January 1, 2027, to present proof of identity. Service Oklahoma must develop and make available a photo identification card that meets the requirements to serve as proof of identity for voters. The photo id cards shall be provided free of charge by Service Oklahoma to any registered voter. The CEO of Service Oklahoma shall consult with the Secretary of the State Election Board to develop the photo identification card. The requirement for proof of identification shall apply to each person appearing to vote at an in-person absentee voting site. The Secretary of Election Board may promulgate rules or procedures to implement this law.

The bill passed the House A&B General Government Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Quality Events Incentive Act: [HB 1065](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) extends the Quality Events Incentive through June 30, 2032.

The bill passed the House A&B Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 1. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Firefighter Pension & Retirement/Military Service Credits: [HB 1091](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) provides clarification for contributions and benefits, improve retirement planning options, and address specific scenarios like military service, ultimately benefiting current and future firefighters in Oklahoma as they prepare for retirement.

The bill passed the House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Housing/Municipal Land Banks: [HB 1114](#) by Rep. Ronald Stewart (D-Tulsa) allows a governing body of a municipality to adopt a municipal land bank program in which the officer charged with selling real property ordered sold pursuant to foreclosure of a tax lien may sell certain eligible real property by private sale for purposes of affordable housing development as provided by this act. The governing body of a municipality that adopts a municipal land bank program shall establish or approve a land bank for the purpose of acquiring, holding, and transferring unimproved real property under this act. The governing body of a municipality that adopts a municipal land bank program shall adopt a plan annually. In the plan, the municipality shall consider other housing plans adopted by the municipality, including the comprehensive plan submitted to HUD and all fair housing plans and policies adopted or agreed to by the municipality. The municipality shall hold a public hearing on the proposed plan. The mayor's office, mayor's designee, the city manager shall provide notice of the hearing to all community housing development organizations and to neighborhood associations identified by the municipality as serving the neighborhoods in which the properties anticipated to be available for sale to the land bank are located. The bill also provides qualifications for a developer to participate in a land bank program. The bill permits owners of property to request property not to be sold in this manner. The bill limits the number of properties a land bank may own. Requires deeds of property sold by land bank to include the right of reverter. The bill clarifies deed restrictions. Land banks are directed to file an annual performance report as well as maintaining certain records. Municipalities and land banks must also maintain copies of performance reports for public review.

The bill was brought back and [amended](#). It passed the House Local & County Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 1. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Transportation/Industrial Access Improvement Grant Program: [HB 1132](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) establishes the Oklahoma Industrial Access Improvement Grant Program to provide funding for roadway and traffic engineering and construction support for industrial

access projects in eligible municipalities with a population of over seven hundred and fifty thousand (750,000). ODOT shall administer the program and ensure compliance with state and federal transportation regulations. The Program shall include development of grants to be awarded to applicants for planning, design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of infrastructure improvements that enhance industrial site accessibility. ODOT is required to develop the grant application and allocate grants based on available funds and the relative merit of applications. ODOT may establish matching requirements, wherein a percentage of project costs shall be covered by the eligible municipality or private-sector partner.

The bill passed the House A&B Transportation Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Firearms/School Property: [HB 1139](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) and Sen. Kendal Sacchieri (R-Blanchard) removes the authorization of students to transport and the storage of firearms and weapons on school property.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

DPS/Alert System: [HB 1155](#) by Rep. Rusty Cornwell (R-Vinita) requires the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to establish and maintain a pursuit alert system to alert drivers of active police pursuits occurring in their immediate area. Alerts of a pursuit shall only be issued when a law enforcement agency confirms that an active pursuit is ongoing and poses a significant risk to the public. The system shall provide clear, concise and timely information about the pursuit, such as the make, model and color of the vehicle, its last know location and direction of travel. Alerts shall be deactivated once the pursuit is over.

The bill passed the A&B Public Safety Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Annexation: [HB 1166](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Jenks) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) removes the

provision that allows municipalities to annex territory without the written consent of a majority of property owners of the proposed territory. The bill provides that the required municipal services extension plan be included in both the public notice published in the newspaper and the notice mailed to all owners of proposed territory to be annexed. If the extension of municipal services are not complete within one hundred twenty (120) months from the date of annexation, the territory is to be immediately detached.

The bill passed the House Local & County Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Use of Service Animal: [HB 1178](#) by Rep. Marilyn Stark (R-Bethany) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) makes it a crime for an individual who does not have a disability or is not trained to assist individuals with a disability, from using a service animal in an attempt to gain treatment or benefits as an individual with a disability, upon conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/CLEET: [HB 1182](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) authorizes new CLEET active commissioned agents and CLEET certified agents to be participants of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System.

The bill was referred on Wednesday by the House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis. The bill can be heard next legislative session.

Retirement Systems/Death Benefit Increase: [HB 1237](#) by Rep. JJ Humphrey (R-Lane) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) increases the death benefit for retired participants of all the States retirement systems from Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

The bill was referred on Wednesday by the House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis. The bill can be heard next legislative session.

Agriculture Sales Tax Exemption: [HB 1242](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) expands the livestock sales tax exemption to include cervidae.

The bill passed the House A&B General Government Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Retirement/DROP: [HB 1268](#) by Rep. Neil Hays (R-Checotah) in lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement pension licensed emergency personnel and deputy sheriffs and county jailers who have at least twenty (20) years of creditable service and who is eligible to receive a service retirement pension to make an irrevocable election to participate in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan. The duration of the participation shall not exceed five (5) years. A member who participants shall earn interest at a rate of two percentage points below the rate of return, but no less than the actuarial assumed interest rate. Also, a member who participates in this plan shall be eligible to receive a COLA. If a member dies during the period of participation, a lump sum payment equal to the account balance of the participant shall be paid to the recipients designated in writing by the participant or, if not, to the surviving spouse who was married for thirty (30) consecutive months preceding death. However, a participant's duty in a municipality shall not be subject to the thirty-month marriage requirement.

The bill was referred on Wednesday by the House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis. The bill can be heard next legislative session.

Airports/Security Screening: [HB 1271](#) by Rep. Neil Hays (R-Checotah) prohibits a public airport that provides commercial services from entering into an agreement that authorizes a private third-party vendor to expedite security screening to use the standard security lane or TSA Precheck security

lane. It does not apply if an agreement was in place before January 1, 2025. It also doesn't apply if the private third-party vendor has obtained dedicated TSA security lanes solely for use by the private third-party vendors at the public airport.

The bill passed the House Transportation Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

PERB/FMCS: [HB 1424](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) authorizes PERB to set the matter for hearing, take evidence and decide the questions presented. Whenever an employer or bargaining agent claims an unfair labor practice has been committed, it shall notify the other in writing, within six (6) months of the alleged practice. Within ten (10) days of notification each party must select and name one arbitrator and notify the other side immediately. The two arbitrators within five (5) days from and after the expiration of the ten-day period shall select the third arbitrator. If they can't agree on the third arbitrator, the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities must request from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) to provide a list of five arbitrators. The third arbitrator shall act as the chairman of the Arbitration Board. This provision applies for interest arbitration, consideration, of alleged unfair labor practices, and for certification, decertification, election or determination of the bargaining representative.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Civil Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

REAP Grants: [HB 1438](#) by Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky (R-Balko) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) raises the cap on certain Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grants administered by OWRB from One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) to Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00).

The bill passed the House A&B Natural Resources Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Board of Adjustments: [HB 1496](#) by Rep. Rob Hall (R-Tulsa) permits any municipality where the council does not serve as the board of adjustment, the governing body may, except as otherwise provided by charter, provide that the decisions of the board on matters within its jurisdiction are final subject to judicial review or are final subject to appeal to the council and the right of later judicial review or are advisory to the council.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Civil Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Oklahoma Route 66 Commission: [HB 1571](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) removes the expiration date of the Oklahoma Route 66 Commission.

The bill passed the House Tourism Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Conservation Commission/Spring Creek Watershed Study: [HB 1588](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) and Sen. Tom Woods (R-Westville) creates the Spring Creek Watershed Study to be used to direct implementation of voluntary, incentive-based conservation practices by the Conservation Commission in partnership with other local, state, and federal agencies and subject to availability of resources, in the Spring Creek watershed to protect and improve the aquatic habitat and water quality in the area.

The bill passed the House A&B Natural Resources Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Shopping Carts: [HB 1689](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) makes it unlawful to remove a shopping cart from the parking area of a retail establishment with the intent to permanently or temporarily deprive the owner of the shopping cart the use of the cart; or to be in possession of any shopping cart that has been removed from the parking area of a retail establishment with the intent to permanently or temporarily deprive the owner of

the shopping cart the use of the cart. Any person who violates this law, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one (1) year, by a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or both.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Public Trust Hospitals/Open Meetings & Open Records: [HB 1738](#) by Rep. Stacy Jo Adams (R-Duncan) exempts a public trust hospital that enters into a joint venture or acquires an interest in a not-for-profit organization to effectuate the administration of the mission of the public trust from the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act. The bill authorizes certain materials to be confidential, except to the extent that the person or entity which provided such information consents to the disclosure. Executive sessions may be held to discuss such materials if deemed necessary by the trust. This does not apply to budgetary information related to appropriations or the appropriation process. "Public trust hospital" is defined as a hospital created pursuant to Section 176.1 of Title 60 or Section 790.1 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Civil Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

ODOT/Invasive Woody Species: [HB 1822](#) by Rep. Jonathan Wilk (R-Goldsby) requires ODOT to establish and implement a program for the systematic identification, removal, and management of invasive woody species within rights-of-way under its jurisdiction. The eradication program shall include the following components: surveys to identify the presence and extent of invasive woody species, develop a prioritized plan for eradication and control; use best management practices for removal; monitor and follow-up measures to prevent reestablishment; and collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies to leverage expertise and resources.

The bill passed the House A&B Transportation Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Sales Tax Exemption/Firearms & Safes: [HB 2028](#) by Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) creates a sales tax exemption for the sales of gun safes, firearm ammunition, and firearms and their optics and direct attachments.

The bill passed the House A&B Public Safety Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Elections/Political Subdivisions: [HB 2106](#) by Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) and Sen. Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) modifies when any election conducted by a county election board can be held. Regular and special elections by any county, school district, technology center school district, municipality, fire protection district, or other political subdivisions are authorized to call for the date for elections currently held in September from the second Tuesday of September to the third Tuesday of June in any year. The date for elections in November has been updated from the second Tuesday of November to the fourth Tuesday of August in any odd-numbered year. The bill provides exceptions for when the Governor can call a special election outside of the regular election dates and provides specific circumstances under which additional dates are allowed and provides dates on which the election can be held.

The bill passed the House Elections & Ethics Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 1. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Public Easement: [HB 2119](#) by Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) creates the Oklahoma Uniform Easement Relocation Act of 2025. This act may not be used to relocate: a public easement, conservation easement, or negative easement; or an easement if the proposed location would encroach on an area of an estate burdened by a conservation easement or would interfere with the use of enjoyment of a public utility easement or an easement appurtenant to a conservation easement. The bill establishes the rights of a property owner to relocate an easement

in certain circumstances. The property owner is allowed to commence a civil action to relocate the easement.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Civil Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Municipal Code Lien Enforcement Act: [HB 2147](#) by Rep. Mike Lay (R-Jenks) applies 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 bill allows for any fees, penalties, and abatement costs imposed against property for violations of a municipality's housing and building codes may be enforced in rem as a lien. Municipalities may proceed with judicial in rem foreclosures of municipal code liens by an enactment of an ordinance or resolution of the governing authority of the municipality in which the real property is located. This act does not constitute an action for personal liability for the municipal code liens against the owner or owners of real property. Rights and remedies set forth are available solely to the governmental entities authorized by law to enforce municipal ordinances. The bill allows a municipality that seeks to enforce a municipal code lien through the sale of real property shall utilize the judicial in rem proceedings as the sole remedy. Enforcement proceedings may only be brought by the municipality. The bill establishes a timeframe for filing a petition for judicial in rem foreclosure for a municipal code lien. It also provides requirements for filing a petition in rem foreclosure when the property is subject to unpaid taxes. Every municipal code lien shall be superior to all other liens, except those liens for taxes as described or reference in Section 3103 of Title 68.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Civil Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Retirement Systems/Benefit Increase: [HB 2193](#) by Rep. Max Wolfley (R-OKC) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) provides a benefit increase for the retired

members of each of the State retirement systems. The amount of increase is eight percent (8%) if the retired members benefit is less than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per year. If the retired members benefit is more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) the amount is increase is whatever is necessary to increase the annual benefit to Ninety-seven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$97,200.00).

The bill was referred on Wednesday by the House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis. The bill can be heard next legislative session.

Sales Tax Rebate/Local Music Incentive Act: [HB 2218](#) by Rep. Jared Deck (D-Norman) creates the Local Music Incentive Act of 2025. The bill authorizes an eligible venue entity to receive a rebate of either sales tax or mixed beverage gross receipts tax or both based upon such revenues collected by or remitted by the entity at which the eligible performance occurs. The maximum rebates that may be paid each fiscal year shall not exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00). The maximum rebate that may be paid to a business entity with respect to a single event at an eligible venue shall be Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per event. The maximum rebate that may be paid to a business entity with respect to all events at an eligible venue shall be Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00). bill establishes procedures for the rebate to be received.

The bill passed the House A&B Natural Resources Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 3. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Oklahoma Emergency Communications Act: [HB 2710](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) creates the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Act. The bill creates the 9-1-1 Management Unit of the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Section. All personnel employed by the Oklahoma 9-1-1 Management Authority are transferred to the 9-1-1 Management Unit. The bill creates the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Section within the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security. The bill creates the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Council to advise the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Section regarding the

regulation of the State Emergency Communications Systems. The Oklahoma Emergency Communications Council is to establish a strategic plan for the state radio system to ensure optimal operability and interoperability for all public safety responders in the state.

The bill as amended passed the House A&B Public Safety Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Targeted Violence Prevention

Act: [HB 2720](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) creates the Targeted Violence Prevention Act. The OK Department of Homeland Security and Oklahoma Counter Terrorism Intelligence Center, which is a unit of the Office of Homeland Security is authorized to collect, analyze, and disseminate certain information to law enforcement and public safety agencies. The information disseminated shall be confidential and the recipients of such information shall comply with the handling terms associated with the disclosure. The strategic objectives for this state: to prevent terrorist attacks; reduce vulnerability to terrorism; minimize the damage from and to recover from terrorist attacks; and other duties as the Governor may prescribe. The Homeland Security Advisor is hereby authorized to adopt and enforce such rules as may be necessary for the operation of the Office of Homeland Security and to carry out the powers and duties assigned to the Office.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 2. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Firearms/Pointing: [HB 2818](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) authorizes the pointing of firearms if acting in self-defense or in defense of real or private property located on any premises. Additionally, the bill removes provisions of the law revoking a person's handgun license if convicted for pointing a firearm at another person. It also clarifies that a person does not need to possess a handgun license if he or she points a firearm at another person while acting in self-defense or while defending real or private

property. There is no requirement to show a defensive display of a firearm or any other deadly weapon before the use of defensive force or the threat of defensive force by a person who is justified in the use or threatened use of defensive force. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully and without lawful cause a firearm, knife, or any other deadly weapon, whether loaded or not, to point at any person or persons for the purpose of threatening or with 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 whimsy, humor or prank or in anger or otherwise. The provisions of this law do not require the defensive display of a firearm or any other deadly weapon before the use of defensive force or the threat of defensive force by a person who is justified in the use or threatened use of defensive force. "Defensive display of a firearm" includes, but is not limited to: verbally informing another person that the person possesses or has available a firearm, exposes or displays a firearm in a manner that a reasonable person would understand was meant to protect the person against the use or attempted use by another or unlawful physical or deadly force, or placing the hand of the person on a firearm while the firearm is contained in a pocket, purse, holster, sling scabbard, case or other means of containment or transport.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Firearms/Medical Marijuana: [SB 39](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) prohibits an individual from carrying a firearm while under the influence of medical marijuana. An applicant for a handgun license shall not be considered ineligible solely on the basis of being a lawful holder of a medical marijuana patient license. Nothing in this section of law shall be construed allowing OSBI to deny an otherwise qualified applicant from obtaining a handgun license pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act solely on the basis of the applicant being a lawful holder of a medical marijuana patient license.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

Law Enforcement/DUI: [SB 54](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) modifies sentencing provisions relating to people convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances twice within 10 years. The bill establishes a mandatory minimum imprisonment in the custody of the DOC. The mandatory minimum is set at ten (10) days for first time violators, thirty (30) days for second time violators, and an additional thirty (30) days for each subsequent violation beyond the second. Mandatory blood or breath tests are required to determine alcohol concentration in certain incidents relating to accidents, driving the wrong way, driving in excess of twenty (20) mph beyond the speed limit, operating a vehicle with a person younger than 18 years of age, reckless driving, and driving to elude law enforcement. Reckless driving as it relates to driving under the influence shall be classified as aggravated driving under the influence, which shall be a felony offense.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

Transportation/ROADS Fund: [SB 67](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) increases appropriations by Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00) beginning the fiscal year July 1, 2025, to the ROADS Fund through July 1, 2032, and Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2033, and for each fiscal year thereafter.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Firearms/School Property: [SB 84](#) by Sen. Kendal Sacchieri (R-Blanchard) and Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) modifies provisions that firearms designed for self-defense or for hunting and fishing may be stored in a privately

owned vehicle and properly displayed or stored as required by law on school property. The bill deletes the requirement that the vehicle is not left unattended and be used solely for the students' transportation to and from the school.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program: [SB 92](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Cody Maynard (R-Durant) directs OWRB to establish a Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program. The Program should include development of competitive loans for eligible entities seeking to develop water or wastewater projects. Loan applications shall be ranked on criteria including, but not limited to, the need of the project, available financing, conservation and fiscal sustainability, and existing pledges for matching funds. All loans shall include a claw back provision in the funding agreement with an eligible entity. OWRB is directed develop and publish on its website an interactive map of approved projects. The bill establishes the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Revolving Fund and authorizes the Board to reserve up to two percent (2%) of the Fund to administer the Program. Additionally, the bill mandates that twenty-five percent (25%) of the monies in the Fund shall be approved for projects located within a municipality or county with a population of more than four hundred thousand (400,000), twenty-five percent (25%) shall be reserved for projects located within a municipality or county with a population greater than thirty thousand (30,000), and fifty percent (50%) shall be reserved for projects located with a municipality or county with a population less than thirty thousand (30,000).

The bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 19 to 5. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Preemption/Firearm Suppressors: [SB 124](#) by Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) and Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) provides that a firearm suppressor that is manufactured in this state and remains in this state are not subject to federal law or federal

regulations as they relate to the authority of the US Congress to regulate interstate commerce. The bill states that a firearm suppressor is manufactured in Oklahoma must have the words "Made in Oklahoma" clearly stamped or engraved on it. Such suppressors shall be considered manufactured in the State if no materials other than generic or insignificant parts were imported from outside of the State. The bill also prohibits an agency, municipality or other political subdivision from adopting a rule, order, ordinance or policy from enforcing any regulation that restricts, prohibits or regulates a firearm suppressor in this state.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 3. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

Nuclear Energy Study/Corporation Commission: [SB 130](#) by Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) and Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) directs the Corporation Commission, no later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act, to start the process to engage an outside consulting firm to conduct a technical and legal feasibility study on nuclear energy generation in this state. The bill sets what the feasibility study should evaluate and consider. The Corporation Commission in conjunction with retail electric suppliers and municipally owned electric utilities shall cooperate in providing information relevant to the feasibility study, providing safeguards to protect confidential information. The study shall be delivered electronically to the Pro Tempore, Speaker and Governor nine (9) months after the effective date of this act.

The bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 18 to 6. The bill moves to the full Senate.

OK Water Infrastructure Loan Program: [SB 265](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) creates the Oklahoma Water Infrastructure Loan Program to finance the development of water infrastructure improvements through low-interest loans and grants to municipalities, rural water districts and other eligible entities for approved water infrastructure projects, and provide technical assistance and administrative expense support for water

infrastructure project implementation. Approved projects shall include, but not be limited to the construction, repair and rehabilitation of water treatment plants, pipelines, and storage facilities; projects to ensure water quality and conservation; and other projects deemed necessary by OWRB to address current and future water needs. OWRB shall promulgate rules for project availability, application procedures, and fund disbursement. They must also submit an annual report to the Pro Tempore, Speaker and Governor of the projects financed, funds expensed, and other information deemed necessary for inclusion by OWRB and its staff. The bill limits the fund's annual revenue of not less than ten percent (10%) to be allocated to projects in rural or underserved communities, as determined by OWRB.

The bill passed the Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofit Museums/Sunset: [SB 289](#) by Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) extends the sunset date for the sales tax for museums through December 31, 2027.

The bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 22 to 1. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Badge & Firearm Retention: [SB 462](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) authorizes a municipal police officer who retires under the Oklahoma Police Pension & Retirement System the ability to request to retain custody and possession of his or her municipal-issued firearm and badge. The retiring officer shall make the request in writing to the head of the municipal law enforcement agency. The agency head may grant the request except in a few cases: not in good standing; convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude; mentally or physically incapacitated and could not perform duties if recalled; or good cause shows that granting approval of the request is detrimental to public health, safety and welfare. Upon death of a municipal police officer prior to retirement, custody and possession of a firearm and badge may be

awarded to the next of kin in accordance with the agency's policy.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

REAP Reporting: [SB 473](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Eric Roberts (R-OKC) requires each entity to develop a plan to measure the qualitative effects of projects funded through the Rural Economic Action Plan of 1996. The plan may utilize inquiries or surveys of the public, local governments, or municipalities to measure the effect. On or before January 1, 2028, each entity required to develop a plan shall submit a report to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce detailing the qualitative effects of at least two projects that received funds pursuant to the Rural Economic Action Plan of 1996. Any expenditures associated with creating the plan required by subsection A of this section and the report required by subsection B of this section shall be made using the initial planning expenditure payments.

The bill passed the Senate Economic Development, Workforce & Tourism Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to General Order in the Senate.

Firearms/Preemption: [SB 500](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) prohibits a governmental entity from entering into contracts with a company for the purchase of goods or services unless the contract contains a written verification from the company that it does not and will not discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association. It does not apply to a governmental entity that contracts with a sole-source provider or does not receive a bid from a company that is able to provide verification discriminating against a firearm entity or firearm trade association. The provisions of this section shall apply only to a contract between a governmental entity or a company with at least ten (10) full-time employees and has a value of at least One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) that is paid wholly or partly by public funds of the governmental entity.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Preemption/Places of Worship: [SB 513](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) prohibits the Governor or any official of a municipality, county or political subdivision, or any other state entity during the existence of a state of emergency from prohibiting or suspending any activity in a place of worship during a declared state of emergency that is otherwise legal under state law.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Firearms/Polling Places: [SB 524](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) authorizes concealed carrying of a handgun, by a person described in paragraph 6 of this subsection, at a polling place during an election being conducted by a state, county, or municipal election board.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Removal of Vagrants: [SB 537](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) authorizes the proprietor or manager of a business to contact law enforcement to remove a vagrant if the vagrant is within twelve (12) feet of any doorway of the business, even if such vagrant is on public property. Upon arrival at the business, law enforcement shall determine, through personal observation or viewing of a video, whether the person accused meets the definition of a "vagrant". Upon determination that the person does meet the definition, the officer shall relocate the vagrant to public property at least one-half (1/2) mile away from the location of the business. The location for relocation shall not be within one-quarter (1/4) mile of any other business.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

Law Enforcement/Fraudulent Documents Identification Unit: [SB 544](#) by Sen. Jonathan Wingard (R-Ada) and Rep. Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) authorizes DPS to establish an Identity Verification Unit (IVU). The chief administrator of the law enforcement agency that requests the issuance of a driver license shall be jointly responsible to ensure the license is promptly returned to DPS. DPS is also authorized to enter into interagency agreements with law enforcement agencies requesting issuance of such a license setting forth the terms of the authorization for use of the license, the terms for custody and control of the license, and the terms for duration and revocation of authorization to use or possess the license.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

OK Local Development & Enterprise Zone Incentive Leverage Act: [SB 575](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) requires the enterprise or entity to provide consent for the Department of Commerce to furnish the reported information to the Incentive Evaluation Commission (IEC) only for evaluation purposes by the IEC or a designee. The information furnished shall be disaggregated and on a per project basis.

The bill passed the Senate Economic Development, Workforce & Tourism Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Tax Compliance/Good Behavior: [SB 583](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) expands the requirements of a noncompliant taxpayer to include filing all required reports and remitting all taxes due for a consecutive twenty-four (24) month period to avoid closure of the business. The bill also expands the defense or defenses to the closure to include written proof that the noncompliant taxpayer has had no more than three (3) instances of untimely filed reports or late tax remittances during a consecutive twenty-four (24) month period.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Impaired Driving Prevention Advisory Committee: [SB 634](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) expands the membership of the Impaired Driving Prevention Advisory Committee to include the State Commissioner of Health and the Executive Directors of ODOT, OMMA, and State Board of Pharmacy.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Firearms/Public Funds/Lobbying: [SB 636](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) prohibits any state entity, or political subdivision of this state or affiliate of a political subdivision to expend any monies, funds, or resources, directly or indirectly for publicity or propaganda, employment of a legislative lobbyist or legislative liaison or preparation of information opposing the rights as stated in the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the US. Any person violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment in county jail for a term not exceeding one (1) year, or both. This does not apply to: any person elected to a state, county, or municipal office or any person who is appointed to fill a vacancy; any person presenting neutral testimony on behalf of an organization; or any person stating a personal opinion who is not testifying in his or her official capacity.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Special Election Dates: [SB 652](#) by Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) modifies the dates for elections for any purpose can be held by any county, school district, technology center school district, municipality, fire protection district, or other political subdivision. The bill also authorizes the Governor to be limited to the dates in which a special election can be called. However, if a vacancy has occurred in the office of the US Representative, State Senator, or State Representative, or in the event of a declared national or state emergency that requires a special election,

the Governor may also call a special election as authorized by law on the following dates: second Tuesday in January in any year; first Tuesday of March in any year; first Tuesday of May in an odd-numbered year; second Tuesday of July in an odd-number year; second Tuesday of September in an odd-numbered year; first Tuesday of October in an odd-numbered year; and first Tuesday of December in any year. These dates apply to any election held after January 1, 2026.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Municipal Zoning/Charter Schools: [SB 674](#) by Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) authorizes a charter school, after acquiring a building not currently zoned for use as an educational building, to submit a charter school site plan to the municipal governing body, municipal zoning commission, or other such body with zoning authority in the municipality where the building is located. The charter school must include information demonstrating the building will be used for at least five (5) years beginning upon use and a plan that details how the building may be altered or enhanced. If the municipal governing body, municipal zoning commission, or other zoning authority disapproves the request, they must provide a written explanation for the reason for disapproval with an option for resubmission. Distance requirements on any business or entity are not impacted with the approval of the charter school; however, if the business or entity ceases, then the distance requirement applies.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Finance/Surcharge Repealer: [SB 677](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) repeals 14A O.S. 2021, Section 2-417, which allows municipalities the ability to charge a surcharge on the use of a debit or credit card.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 10-0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Firefighter Pension & Retirement/Municipal Contribution Increase: [SB 715](#) by Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) increases the municipality's contribution, beginning on July 1, 2025, to sixteen percent (16%) of the total actual paid gross salaries of the members of the fire department.

The bill passed the Senate Retirement & Insurance Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis and can be considered next year.

Police Pension and Retirement System/Member Contribution Increase: [SB 716](#) by Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) increases the municipality's contribution, on and after July 1, 2025, from fourteen percent (14%) to sixteen percent (16%) of the total of the actual base paid salary system employed by the System.

The bill passed the Senate Retirement & Insurance Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the Legislative Actuary for Analysis and can be considered next year.

Zoning/Capitol-Medical Center Improvement and Zoning District: [SB 717](#) by Sen. Nikki Nice (D-OKC) expands the boundaries of the Capitol-Medical Center Improvement and Zoning District. The Capitol-Medical Center Improvement and Zoning Commission shall have exclusive authority over the zoning and regulation of all commercial property in the district and no planning or zoning commission of any subdivision has authority over the commercial property in this area.

The bill passed with the title stricken the Senate Retirement & Insurance Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Airport Construction Program: [SB 730](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) requires the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics to develop and adopt a 5-year Airport Construction Program on an annual basis which lists federal and state funding that the Department has available for the development of airport infrastructure. The Department shall involve

public input during the development of the Program and coordinate and receive input from the airports within the statewide airport system plan. The Department shall set realistic project delivery schedules to maintain integrity and to minimize air transportation disruption. A project must have been included in the five-year Program and be at an airport that is included in the most current version of the statewide airport system plan to receive financial assistance.

The bill passed the Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 1. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Firearms/Lawful Carry: [SB 742](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Sen. Erick Harris (R-Edmond) authorizes Judges of the Court of Civil Appeals, Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals, or Justices of the Supreme Court who have a valid handgun license to carry in the scope of employment within the courthouse of this state.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order of the Senate.

Firearms/First Responders: [SB 768](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Jim Shaw (R-Chandler) authorizes licensed first responders to carry a firearm while performing official duties.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Oklahoma Public Safety & Immigration Enforcement Act: [SB 865](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) creates the Oklahoma Public Safety and Immigration Enforcement Act. OMES is directed to develop a Secure Interagency Collaboration Platform to facilitate real-time communication and data sharing among law enforcement, the Department of Corrections, and federal immigration authorities. Law enforcement agencies are directed to report the arrest of any individual suspected of being an unauthorized immigrant. The Department of Corrections shall screen any individual that enters a

state correctional facility to identify an unauthorized immigrant. Federal authorities are directed to prioritize cooperation with agencies of this state to expedite deportation proceedings. The bill subjects any agency that fails to comply with the provisions of this law to an administrative penalty as determined by the Office.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Eluding Officers: [SB 871](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) imposes a minimum sentence of six (6) months imprisonment for any person convicted of eluding a peace officer. For any violation that endangers another person the minimum sentence is increased from one (1) year to thirty (30) months. Anyone convicted of eluding an officer and causing an accident resulting in great bodily injury to any other person shall receive an increased minimum sentence. The sentence is increased from one (1) year to five (5) years and the maximum sentence is increased from five (5) years to seven (7) years.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Public Finance/Investment Procedures: [SB 957](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) requires the governing body, the authority of a public entity having as its beneficiary a political subdivision, or the governing board of a qualified pool investment program to authorize an investment policy by ordinance or resolution directing the treasurer to invest public funds. The investment policy shall address liquidity, diversification, safety of principal, yield, maturity and quality, and capability of investment management. The treasurer shall focus on safety and liquidity in the investment of funds and use competitive bids when purchasing brokered securities and shall seek to maximize yield within each class of investment instrument consistent with the safety of the funds invested. Any political subdivision which elects to participate in a local government investment pool shall be deemed to have authorized investments in the items specified

in paragraphs 1 through 10 of subsection B, notwithstanding any differences in the written investment plans adopted by the governing body.

The bill repeals 62 O.S. 2021, Section 348.1 and 62 O.S. 2023, Section 348.3. regarding investment policies.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee with the title stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 2. The bill is place on General Order in the Senate.

Conservation District Act: [SB 1007](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) modifies standards related to conservation under the Conservation District Act to include the use of land, water and natural resources for the public and sustainable social and economic purposes.

The bill passed the Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Local Bid Preference: [SB 1014](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) requires political subdivisions awarding construction contracts exceeding One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) or construction management trade contracts or subcontracts exceeding Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to give preferences to local bids of not more than five percent (5%) instead of authorizing such preferences.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2. The bill is placed on General Order in the Senate.

Fair Pay for Construction Act/Municipal Roads: [SB 1106](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) modifies the Fair Pay for Construction Act to not apply to municipal road construction.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

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

Monday, February 24, 2025

Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee 10:00 a.m., Room 535

Transportation/Emergency Routes: [SB 77](#) by Sen. Roland Pederson (R-Burlington) designates all state highways designated by the Transportation Commission and national highways as part of the National Highway System within the state as critical emergency routes. The bill defines "critical emergency route" as regularly traveled by first responders and other emergency medical services personnel in their course of duties. Any political subdivision may, by ordinance, designate a road maintained by the county or municipality as a critical emergency route if the road is regularly used by first responders and other emergency services personnel in the course of their duties. Any person who willfully and knowingly violates this act shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). The bill also requires any train stopped for an emergency condition that is obstructing the critical emergency route to notify the Department of Public Safety. DPS has the authority to issue a citation subject to a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation.

House General Government Committee 10:30 a.m., Room 5s2

Preemption/Flag Displays: [HB 1776](#) by Rep. Brian Hill (R-Yukon) and Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) establishes that no state or local governmental entity is to prohibit a person from displaying, whether by vehicle, motorcycle, or by holding, the United States of America flag or the Oklahoma State flag on such state or local governmental entity's property. Flags must be displayed in accordance with accepted standards for proper display and cannot be altered or defaced.

OUBCC/Child Care Homes: [HB 1847](#) by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (D-Tulsa) requires OUBCC to adopt the International Residential Code for two-

unit to six-unit residential buildings. DHS shall work with the State Fire Marshal to develop guidelines that allow family childcare homes and large childcare homes to operate under the fire protection requirements of the IRC. No agency, municipality, county or other political subdivision shall place stricter fire requirements than those outlined in the IRC on family childcare homes and large childcare homes.

Newspapers: [HB 2166](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) defines a "periodical newspaper" and a "non-periodical permit newspaper". The non-periodical newspaper shall petition the district court in the jurisdiction in which the newspaper seeks to be authorized as a legal newspaper. The bill establishes the publication provisions by requiring all periodical and non-periodical permit newspapers to register and maintain registration of ownership with the Secretary of State; publish all legal notices on the newspaper website in a timely manner, if the newspaper maintains a website, in front of any paywall or paid access so the public may freely access the notices is qualified to be a legal newspaper in only one county in which the periodical permit newspaper original entry periodicals mail permit was applied for and held or in the county in which the non-periodical permit newspaper. Each legal newspaper must annually declare in the published statement of ownership, management and circulation on October 1 and shall continue to be authorized and cannot change such declaration until October 1 each year. If there is no legal newspaper in a county, a newspaper can be established by meeting the provisions of this section after a period of fifty-two (52) consecutive and uninterrupted weeks in a twelve (12) month period. Failure to issue or publish said newspaper for a period of twenty-one (21) consecutive days, beginning the day after the last publication due to an emergency declared by the state or federal government does not deem the newspaper a failure. A newspaper is permitted to publish fifty (50) of the preceding fifty-two (52) weeks over the immediately previous twelve (12) month period, and failure to issue or publish a newspaper under this schedule does not deem this as a failure.

Newspapers/Publication of Notices: [HB 2167](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) establishes publishing standards and related fees for public notice printed in newspapers. A newspaper qualified to publish notices under the laws of this state has the authority to publish all notices in a format readable to a reasonable person. Any notice submitted which is unreadable or intended to be unreadable may be rejected or typeset by the newspaper in a readable format. Newspapers providing affidavits or proof of publication are permitted to charge and collect a fee for a notarial act. For any notice placed in a newspaper, there shall be a minimum charge of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for such notice if the total calculated cost or words and lines described in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection is less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). When notice by publication in a newspaper is required by law, order or court, or other means, the newspaper publishing the notice shall, at no additional cost to the person or official, cause the notice to be placed on the newspaper website if there is one available, in front of any paywall or paid access to the website. Notices should be performed in a timely manner but should not invalidate the publication of a notice otherwise valid when published in the newspaper. Temporary outages or service interruptions prohibiting the posting or display of such notice shall be considered harmless error and the proper legal notice requirements shall be considered met if the notice published in the newspaper complies with the publication. Access to the statewide website shall be free to the public. There is no deadline set by the newspaper that is more than five (5) business days prior to the date of publication, excluding the date of publication, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays in the State of Oklahoma. The newspaper will confirm receipt of the notice and inform the person in writing or electronically about the publication dates. If there is a failure to publish the notice in the issue specified in the confirmation, the newspaper shall publish in the future issue at no charge. If the notice has multiple insertions, only the first notice omitted shall be required to run at no charge.

House Insurance Committee

10:30 a.m., Room 4s5

Insurance/Public Adjusters: [HB 1501](#) by Rep. Mark Chapman (R-Broken Arrow) limits the amount a public insurance adjuster can receive not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the amount of the insurance settlement when adjusting for entities subject to GTCA.

House Public Health Committee

3:00 p.m., Room 206

Food Truck Freedom Act: [HB 1076](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes a mobile food vendor with a food establishment license to operate in this state. The mobile food vendor must follow all state and local laws and regulations governing operations in the jurisdiction where the vendor is operating that are not in conflict with this act. A mobile food vendor must provide a copy of its state license to a local authority for recognition by the local authority before operating in the local's jurisdiction. A local jurisdiction shall also issue a license or permit as long as it does not impose additional requirements that conflict with this act. The bill allows these vendors to operate in certain locations. The State Commissioner of Health may promulgate rules to enforce this section of law. The bill also allows local authorities to regulate mobile food vendors when it comes to noise, parking, reporting foodborne illnesses, and adopting and enforcing regulations that address the public health or safety risks. It does prohibit local authorities from several mobile food vendor operations. The bill adds definitions for mobile food establishment, mobile push cart, mobile retail food establishment, mobile food vendor, mobile food vending, food vending vehicle, local authority, public property, temporary mass gathering, and nonobstructive spot inspection. If a mobile food vendor seeks to operate in a county that is governed by a city-county health department, they shall obtain a food establishment from the local authority.

House Business Committee

3:00 p.m., Room 4s5

OUBCC/Training: [HB 2085](#) by Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) requires OUBCC to establish a regional

continuing education for all residential and commercial construction industry personnel affected by the codes adopted by OUBCC, including, but not limited to, code officials, design professionals, and trade workers. There is no cost for the regional training for state licensed building code officials. A fee may be assessed to all participants other than state licensed code officials. The costs shall be limited to any cost directly associated with the training and shall be remitted to the State Treasury pursuant to the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission Act. Each code official operating in this state on behalf of any state agency or municipal or county office may complete regional training and issue a certificate of completion. OUBCC shall also establish a workforce development process with the purpose of increasing the number of available code officials in Oklahoma. The workforce development applications, qualifications, and procedures shall be promulgated by rules of the Commission. OUBCC may establish forms and procedures to implement and administer the provisions of this section.

House Agriculture Committee

3:00 p.m., Room 5s2

Conservation Commission: [HB 1815](#) by Rep. Jim Grego (R-Wilburton) modifies multiple definitions used in the Conservation District Act. The bill adds the power for the Conservation Commission to do to include entering into contracts and agreements and execute instruments deemed necessary, beneficial, or convenient by the Commission for the exercise of its legally conferred powers. This includes, but is not limited to, creating shared positions, administering statewide and locally emphasized programs, and exploring funding sources for conservation programs, practices, and pilot projects.

Conservation Commission Cost-Share Program: [HB 2100](#) by Rep. Annie Menz (D-Norman) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) exempts private lands that are part of the Conservation Commission Program from eminent domain while such lands are a part of the program.

House Public Safety Committee
3:00 p.m., Room 450

Law Enforcement/Background Investigations: [HB 1190](#) by Rep. Rick West (R-Heavener) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) modifies background investigation requirements by striking the language removing resident aliens. The bill prohibits the certification of permanent resident alien; however, any person who has been trained and certified by CLEET and is actively employed as a full-time peace officer as of November 1, 2025, shall not be subject to the prohibition.

Law Enforcement/Fraudulent Documents Identification Unit: [HB 1753](#) by Rep. Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) authorizes DPS to establish an Identity Verification Unit (IVU). The chief administrator of the law enforcement agency that requests the issuance of a driver license shall be jointly responsible to ensure the license is promptly returned to DPS. DPS is also authorized to enter into interagency agreements with law enforcement agencies requesting issuance of such a license setting forth the terms of the authorization for use of the license, the terms for custody and control of the license, and the terms for duration and revocation of authorization to use or possess the license.

Fire Department/Fire Sites: [HB 1809](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) requires any fire department operating in the State of Oklahoma, upon concluding extinguishment efforts at the scene of a fire, to designate an individual to monitor the site for potential flare-ups and residual hot spots. The designee does not have to be a professional or volunteer firefighter; however, they must have the ability to conduct site inspections at intervals not exceeding one (1) hour for a minimum period of twelve (12) hours following the fire's extinguishment. The fire department shall have a firefighter on sight until a designee is appointed.

Texting While Driving: [HB 2263](#) by Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) prohibits the operator of a motor vehicle from using or holding of a hand-held electronic cellular device in school zone or work zone where workers are present. The provisions do not apply if

a person is using the cellular telephone or electronic communication device: in conjunction with hands-free or voice-operated technology; or for the sole purpose of communicating with in an imminent emergency situation. Municipalities may enact and municipal police officers may enforce ordinances prohibiting and penalizing such conduct. The ordinances may not be more stringent than state law; and the total fine and court costs for municipal ordinance violations shall not exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). DPS may not assess points for violation and law enforcement is prohibited from confiscating or extracting information from the cellular device without consent.

Mobile Food Trucks/Fire Marshal: [HB 2459](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) requires all mobile food preparation vehicles operating within Oklahoma prior to July 1, 2024, that are capable of producing smoke or grease-laden vapors shall be in compliance with the most current adopted code. With the exception of an automatic fire extinguishing system, this shall include, but not be limited to, those utilizing electric, liquid petroleum (LP) gas, compressed natural gas (CNG), or combination thereof for cooking, provided that portable fire extinguishers installed and maintained with the most current version of NFPA 10. All liquified petroleum gas shall be inspected by the Oklahoma Liquified Petroleum Gas Board or a certified contractor. The provisions in paragraph 1 of this subsection will expire on July 1, 2030, in which all mobile food preparation vehicles shall comply with the most current adopted codes set forth by the State. Mobile food preparation vehicles are under the sole jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal. Political subdivisions are not prevented from enforcing the political subdivision's event permits, operational fees, land use regulations, zoning, and other ordinances in relation to the operation of a mobile food preparation vehicle within the boundaries of said political subdivision. The rules promulgated shall have uniform force and effect and no city, town, county, political subdivision, or other agency shall enact or enforce any fire or life safety code related ordinances, rules, or other requirements for mobile food preparation.

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Senate Public Safety Committee
9:00 a.m., Room 230

Law Enforcement/Canine Cooperative Grant Program: [SB 750](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) authorizes DEQ to promulgate rules to create the Canine Cooperative Grant Program to provide financial assistance to state, county, and municipal law enforcement entities and fire departments for the acquisition and training of law enforcement canines. There is created a revolving fund for DEQ to be designated the Canine Cooperative Grant Program Revolving Fund. DEQ may retain five percent (5%) of the proceeds for the fund for administration of the program. The grants have the following annual limits: 1) not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per county sheriff; 2) not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per municipal police department; and 3) not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per fire department for canine purchases or canine training.

Firearm/Pointing: [SB 853](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) modifies language relating to the pointing of a firearm by persons acting in self-defense or to a home or business owner in defense of the owner's private property. The bill reduces the mandatory imprisonment of those guilty of such acts. The defensive display of a firearm or other deadly weapon by a person shall not be a criminal act if a reasonable person would believe 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 another or in defense of private property, located on any premises, owned, rented, leased or occupied by permission of the property owner. It does not apply to a person who intentionally provokes another person to use unlawful physical or deadly force or uses a firearm during the commission of an unlawful act involving force or violence. The bill adds a definition for "defensive display" and "occupied premises".

Emergency Management: [SB 862](#) by Sen. Jonathan Wingard (R-Ada) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) states that the constitutional role of government personnel, elected and employed, and all

government agencies, during emergencies and disasters, is to aid residents of this state. It prohibits any action from being enacted or imposed that will subvert the constitutional rights of the residents of this state, even during times of emergency or disaster. Any government official who violates this law, upon conviction, is guilty of a felony punishable in DOC for not more than five (5) years, a fine not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both. They shall also be subject to removal from office or position; prohibition from holding any future elected or public office; a fine of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per violation; and personal assumption of all liability where the government would otherwise be liable.

Firearm/Training: [SB 863](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) removes the requirement for any person applying for a handgun license to specify the firearms he or she is qualified to use as stated on the certificate of training or exemption of training.

DUI/Bail: [SB 882](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) prohibits any police officer or sheriff from the release of any person arrested for a second driving under the influence violation without the granting of bail by a magistrate, court, judge, or on-call judge. In determining the bond and other conditions of release, the magistrate, judge, on-call judge or court shall consider any evidence that the person is in any manner dependent upon alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance or has a pattern of regular abuse of alcohol or the illegal use of any controlled dangerous substance. If the person is arrested for any crime provided in Section 11-902 of Title 42, the court shall consider the threat the person poses to public safety and shall present written findings on the bail amount. The bill removes language requiring officers to test any driver involved in an accident that resulted in a death or injury for substances.

Law Enforcement/Detention Facilities: [SB 946](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) requires city and county jail facilities to provide notification to the State Department of Health when detaining a juvenile within twenty-four (24) hours of such detention. No person under the age of eighteen (18) shall be held in such facilities longer than six (6) hours. While detained in such facilities, juveniles

must be segregated from the adult population. The bill directs the Dept. of Health to include in its standards of care for inmates' provisions for medical services, inmate supervision, staffing and training, and emergency procedures. Fixed sleeping surfaces at least twelve (12) inches off the floor must be provided to inmates. Staff shall be available to perform sensitive functions and procedures as necessary and to accommodate inmate gender, the infirm, or the holding of juveniles. The bill requires all cells to have at least thirty-five (35) square feet of unencumbered walking floor space for the initial inmate and at least twenty (20) square feet of additional unencumbered floor space for each additional inmate. The bill allows for a request for a waiver. If there are deficiencies found, the administrator of the facility must submit a written response to the Department that includes the facility's plan to address the cited deficiencies in the inspection report.