

10-25

April 11, 2025

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OML PRIORITY BILLS PASS HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE DEADLINE

This week was the House Policy Committee Deadline. All Senate Bills assigned to Policy Committees and Appropriations Subcommittees had to be passed out this week to continue on to the House Oversight and Full Appropriations Committee. The deadline for bills to be heard in Committee is April 24.

(OML PRIORITY) Open Records Requests: [SB 535](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) The bill allows for a public body to require advance payment of the estimated fees authorized under this section when the estimated costs of searching, redacting, or making a copy of the record or records exceed Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00). Any portion of an advance payment that exceeds the costs of responding to the request shall be returned to the requestor. If a records request is unreasonably vague, open-ended, or otherwise does not describe the requested records with reasonable specificity, a public body may ask the requestor to clarify the request. To have reasonable specificity, a request shall specify a general time frame within which the requested records would have been created or transmitted, seek identifiable records, rather than general information without any qualifiers or other specifications, and include search terms that are sufficiently specific to avoid generating an unreasonably large number of records, such as thousands of pages of emails. If a public body has engaged with the requestor to seek the information needed to fulfill the request and to reach a reasonable solution that accommodates the interests of both the requestor and the public body, including providing the requestor with general topics of records related to the request, the request may be denied if it is still not reasonably specific and would excessively disrupt the public body's essential function.

The bill was [amended](#) and 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.

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

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

The bill passed the House Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 1. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

(OML PRIORITY) Sanitary Sewer Systems/GTCA: [SB 650](#) by Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Collin Duel (R-Guthrie) directs the governing body of a public utility to adopt a plan that provides for the mapping and recordkeeping of a sanitary sewer system; a policy of inspections, cleaning, and root control of sewer lines; a policy of responding to calls for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) to clear municipal sewer mains, flush with water and deodorize the land upon which the SSO has occurred, and remove SSO debris; adoption of a Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Ordinance that makes unlawful the improper introduction of FOGS0 from nonresidential entities; the adoption of an ordinance requiring new construction or remodels to be connected to the sanitary sewer system, including the installation of a backflow prevention device;

adoption of a policy that will notify private residential property owners who are connected to the sanitary sewer system to provide installation of a backflow prevention system; adoption of a funding availability model. Funding availability models shall be reviewed at least every five (5) years to include a rate study and adoption of a five-year capital improvement plan. OWRB and any other state agency that provides funding to public utilities for water and wastewater improvements shall ensure that the ranking structure for approval of funding applications accounts for the sustainability efforts of systems that have adopted the plans. There shall be no right of recovery for personal injury from a (SSO) provided that the utility is working to maintain its (SSO) in accordance with the guidance and criteria promulgated by the governing body. The total liability on claims within the scope of GTCA shall not exceed: Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) for any claim or to any claimant who has more than one claim for loss of property, including consequential damages; for physical injury from a municipal overflow or backup Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per individual person occupying the structure with a total cap of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) per occurrence. For nuisance, annoyance, or inconvenience damages from a municipal overflow or backup, the bill establishes a similar Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) cap not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) per occurrence regardless of the number of persons affected by the occurrence. The bill also adds inclusion of new liability exclusions clarifying and expanding the protections for political subdivisions and utilities regarding claims related to storm sewer and sanitary sewer issues. It limits liability for specific weather-related events, establishes a timeframe for reporting sewer issues, and outlines conditions under which claims on private property related to sewer overflows may not be pursued. Such changes aim to reduce the risk of legal claims against entities responsible for public utilities and enhance their operational protections.

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.

BILLS ON THE MOVE:

Law Enforcement/Criminal Offense: [HB 1001](#) by Rep. Steve Bashore (R-Miami) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) creates Lauria and Ashley's Law which adds accessory to murder in the first degree or accessory to murder in the second degree to the list of crimes required not to serve less than eighty-five percent (85%).

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Failure to Yield: [HB 1022](#) by Rep. Ken Luttrell (R-Ponca City) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) provides for any person convicted of failure to yield a right-of-way and who causes a serious bodily injury as a result of such violation may, in addition to any other fine or penalty, be assessed a fee in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to be deposited in the Motorcycle Safety and Education Program Revolving Fund. For the purposes of this section, a serious bodily injury is an injury that is serious in nature but does not quite rise to the level of injury of great bodily injury or a fatality. In addition to the fee, the court may impose additional penalties, including: a remedial driving course; a loss of driver license for ninety (90) days; or a payment of restitution of no less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), but no more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 1. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Uniform Easement Relocation: [HB 1060](#) by Rep. Jonathan Wilk (R-Goldsby) and Sen. Lisa Standridge (R-Norman) allows a servient estate owner to relocate an easement through a civil action if the relocation does not lessen its utility, increase the burden on the easement holder, impair its purpose or safety, or negatively impact the value or condition of the affected properties. The bill details the legal process for relocation and outlines the servient estate owner's responsibilities, including covering relocation costs and complying with safety and utility standards. Certain easements, including

public utility and conservation easements, are excluded from relocation under this act.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

CIB/Penalties: [HB 1216](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) adds roofing under the Construction Industries Board to regulate. The bill provides that any fines established by CIB for any second or subsequent violation of a law or rule to be set at five (5) times the amount of the fine set by the Board for initial violations. Collection of unpaid, finalized, administrative fines by the agency, directly or through contracted services unless otherwise provided in law, may be sought beginning ninety (90) days after final disposition and order of the matter through the processes established by this act and the APA.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Farming: [HB 1378](#) by Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Valliant) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) adds "farming" and "farm" to include the production of timber, seedling production, and forestry management.

The bill passed the Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee with the enacting clause stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/School Access for Emergency Response Act: [HB 1417](#) by Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) creates the "School Access for Emergency Response Act" or the "SAFER Act". The bill creates a grant program within the Department of Education. Grant recipients may use the money for the following purposes: 1) deliver training programs to teach district-based security personnel the basic procedures for effective communications with first responders; 2) implement an interoperable technology solution; and 3) maintain or improve a school's existing interoperable communication

hardware or software to a school that does not have it. A school is required to have a MOU with its regional PSAP or the local law enforcement agency to be eligible to apply. The Department of Education shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the requirements of this act. The bill creates a seven (7) member grant selection committee to work with the State Board of Education to determine whether a grant applicant satisfies the criteria to receive a grant. On or before January 15, 2028, and on or before January 15 each year thereafter for the duration of the grant program, each district must submit a report to the Department summarizing the activities of the grant program to the Legislature.

The bill passed the Senate Education Committee with the title stricken on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

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 Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations 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 Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Child Endangerment: [HB 1731](#) by Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) modifies when a person

commits child endangerment by adding impaired driving.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

ODOT/Invasive Woody Species: [HB 1822](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) 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 Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee with the enacting clause stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

OK Urban Agriculture Cost-Share Program: [HB 1910](#) by Rep. Arturo Alonso-Sandoval (D-OKC) and Sen. Nikki Nice (D-OKC) creates the Oklahoma Urban Agriculture Cost-Share Program within the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to provide monies to eligible people for the purpose of promoting sustainable urban agricultural practices, improving food security, and enhancing green spaces in Oklahoma's urban areas.

The bill passed the Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Bail: [HB 1991](#) by Rep. Tim Turner (R-Kinta) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) authorizes if a defendant is confined in a county jail, municipal jail, or a jail operated by a regional jail authority, and the defendant has a request to hold in custody from another jurisdiction within the state, the defendant may post bond in the other jurisdiction to release the hold. Upon proof that a

bond has been posted, the request to be held in custody by the other jurisdiction shall be released.

The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/School Resource Officers/Sex Crimes: [HB 1995](#) by Rep. Tim Turner (R-Kinta) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) modifies the definition of sex crimes to designate "employee of a school system" to include employed and contracted school resource officers and security guards.

The bill passed the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Fire Alarm Box Reporting/Repealer: [HB 2068](#) by Rep. Molly Jenkins (R-Coyle) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) repeals Section 1852 by Title 21 which required the fire chief or principal officer of every fire department shall post, or cause to be posted, a copy of this act at every fire alarm box or place specially designed for the reporting of fires in his jurisdiction.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Terry Peach Water Restoration Act: [HB 2162](#) by Rep. Mike Dobrinski (R-Kingfisher) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) expands the definition of "harmful woody species" to include *Juniperus pinchotii* (Redberry juniper), *Juniper ashei* (ashe juniper), and *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite) as those that need to be eradicated.

The bill passed the Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee with the enacting clause stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Open Records Act/Public Access Counselor/AG's Office: [HB 2163](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) creates in the Attorney General's office a Public Access Counselor Unit. 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 thirty (30) 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 access to records and any response from the public body. A person who makes the request for commercial purposes 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 receiving 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 the necessary action to comply or file a 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 Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

OK Main Street Grant Program Revolving Fund: [HB 2407](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) creates the Oklahoma Main Street Grant Program Revolving Fund in the Department of Commerce. In order to qualify for a grant, a Main Street shall apply to Commerce. In order to qualify for the grant, the Main Street applying shall be required to: be designated and qualified Main Street by the Oklahoma Main Street Program; and shall contract with Commerce, upon receiving the grant, which will require a submission of proof that the Main Street is still a designated Main Street and an invoice

to Commerce to be paid no earlier than June 1 of any fiscal year in which there are funds to award the grant. If Main Street is no longer designated a Main Street, they will be removed from any opportunities to receive grant. No Main Street that applies for the grant will depend upon future awarded funds for operations, but in any year awarded, funds may go towards any cost associated with their operations.

The bill passed the Senate Economic Development, Workforce and Tourism Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Law Enforcement/Surplus Property: [HB 2724](#) by Rep. Mark Chapman (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Julie McIntosh (R-Porter) allows OHP, pursuant to rules promulgated by OMES, to donate surplus OHP vehicles driven over ninety thousand (90,000) miles to any law enforcement agency of any political subdivision in a county with a population of no more than one hundred thousand (100,000) residents. The use of such donated vehicles shall be limited to valid and authorized law enforcement efforts by the receiving agency.

The bill passed the Senate Retirement & Government Resources Committee with the title restored on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate.

Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program Act of 2025: [HB 2754](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Altus) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) establishes the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program. As used in this Act, "adequate medical care facilities" means facilities that: would meet or meet the eligibility of a federally qualified critical access hospital; are located in a town or municipality with fewer than five thousand (5,000) population; and is owned by a public trust organized under the laws of this state or by a town or municipality of this state. The bill places the administration of the program by the State Department of Health.

The bill passed the Senate Health & Human Services Committee with the title stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations 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 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 Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Utility Vehicles: [SB 20](#) by Sen. Brian Guthrie (R-Bixby) and Rep. Chris Banning (R-Bixby) modifies the definition of street-legal utility vehicle to require that the vehicle be able to maintain speeds of up to fifty (50) mph. The bill also allows for the

operation of street-legal utility vehicles on those portions U.S. highways in counties with a population of less than seventy-five thousand (75,000) and in counties with a population of more than seventy-five thousand (75,000) on those portions of U.S. highways with a posted speed limit of fifty (50) miles per hour or less.

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.

OSBI/Mass Casualty Revolving Fund: [SB 37](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) defines "mass casualty" to mean an incident that results in no less than three (3) injured individuals; requires more emergency response than typically available in the jurisdiction; and results in a sudden and timely surge of injured individuals in need of emergency services. OSBI may respond to an incident without a request from a local law enforcement agency and coordinate with local law enforcement agencies who are responding to the event. The bill also creates a Mass Casualty Revolving Fund.

The bill passed the House A&B Public Safety Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 1. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Sales Tax Exemption/Firearm Safety Devices: [SB 50](#) by Sen. JoAnna Dossett (D-Tulsa) and Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) creates a sales tax exemption for the sales of firearm safety devices and gun safety devices. The bill defines "firearm safety device" and "gun safety device".

The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 1. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Law Enforcement/DUI: [SB 54](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) modifies sentencing provisions relating to persons 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 House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofits/School Supplies and Clothing: [SB 59](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (D-Tulsa) creates a new sales tax exemption for nonprofit organizations and provides documentation to OTC showing the organization's principal purpose is to provide school supplies or articles of clothing for underserved students attending prekindergarten through twelfth grade at public schools in the state.

The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 1. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Conservation Commission/Spring Creek Watershed Study Act: [SB 91](#) by Tom Woods (R-Westville) and Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) creates the Spring Creek Watershed Study Act. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission, in partnership with other local, state, and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations to undertake a comprehensive water quality study of the Spring Creek Watershed located in Cherokee, Delaware, and Mayes counties near Kansas, Oklahoma. The bill creates the Spring Creek Watershed Water Quality Advisory Group, organized by the Conservation Commission and the local conservation districts in the watershed. The advisory group consists of one (1) member representing Kansas, Oklahoma, appointed by the Commission; one (1) member representing the

municipal government of Oaks, Oklahoma, appointed by the Commission and several other members representing landowners and local conservation districts as well as any other members deemed necessary for inclusion. The bill also creates a technical advisory group. Both advisory groups must assist the Commission in developing the report as well as recommend policies that incentivize participation. The bill creates the Spring Creek Watershed Study Revolving Fund for the purpose of implementing the Spring Creek Watershed Study Act.

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 A&B Committee.

Sewage Disposal Systems/DEQ: [SB 111](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) and Rep. Ty Burns (R-Morrison) requires any person engaging in the installation of more than one (1) individual sewage disposal system to obtain certification from DEQ.

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

Water/Groundwater Permits: [SB 133](#) by Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) requires that anyone who applies to the OWRB for an appropriate groundwater permit to include documentation that the applicant has a valid, unexpired driver license issued in this state or a valid US passport.

The bill passed the House Agriculture Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 3. The bill moves to the House Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee.

Water/Terry Peach Water Restoration Act: [SB 263](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Mike Dobrinski (R-Kingfisher) adds species to the "Harmful woody species" list. The bill creates a statewide pilot program to remove or eradicate harmful woody species in watersheds administered by the Conservation Commission. The bill also adds recognized governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations to be available to utilize funds for the eradication of the harmful woody species.

The expansion includes project areas above Lake Overholser and the North Fork Red River into Lugert-Altus Reservoir.

The bill passed the House Agriculture Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee.

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

The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 1. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Finance/Surcharges: [SB 351](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Rep. Neil Hays (R-Checotah) specifies that there shall be no limit on the offer of a discount for the payment of goods and services using cash or check. The bill requires any seller passing on the credit card or debit card processing fee to list the fee on a separate charge. The fee shall not exceed the total of the bank processing fees, financial transaction fees, the cost of providing for secure transaction, portal fees, and fees necessary to compensate for increased bandwidth incurred as a result of providing the transaction.

The bill passed the House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 4. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Assault & Battery/Law Enforcement Officers: [SB 369](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) modifies the provisions on special aggravated assault and battery against law enforcement officers to include strangulation.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

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 the 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 House Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

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 House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Homeless Shelters/Zoning: [SB 484](#) by Sen. Lisa Standridge (R-Norman) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) prohibits a municipal governing body,

municipal zoning commission, or any other such body with zoning authority of the municipality where the proposed homeless shelter is located, provided the municipality has a population of less than three hundred thousand (300,000), from approving any proposed homeless shelter if such shelter would be located within three thousand (3,000) feet of any school or school property. Any homeless shelter that was properly zoned prior to the effective date of this act shall be permitted to continue to operate. If any school or school property is established within three thousand (3,000) feet of any homeless shelter after it has been properly zoned and approved, it shall not cause the revocation or closure of the shelter. Any change of use of a homeless shelter will be subject to the provisions of this act. This act does not apply to domestic violence shelters or youth shelters or to a homeless shelter operated within a place of worship.

The bill failed to receive a "Do Pass Motion" in the House County & Municipal Government Committee. Therefore, it remains property of the Committee.

Firearms/Preemption: [SB 500](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) 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 of law 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 from public funds of the governmental entity.

The bill passed the House State Powers Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Marijuana Warning Labels: [SB 518](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvard (R-Wilson) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) adds language to the warning on a medical marijuana product container to say it is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana or marijuana products; women should not use marijuana or marijuana products during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects; and this product has been tested for contaminants.

The bill passed the House Alcohol, Tobacco & Controlled Substances Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2. The bill moves to the House Health & Human Services Oversight Committee.

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 House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Data Privacy: [SB 546](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) creates the Oklahoma Computer Data and Privacy Act. This bill entitles a consumer to request that a business that collects the consumer's personal information deletes any personal information the business has collected from the consumer. It contains several other provisions to ensure that the privacy of consumers' personal information. It also preempts any ordinance, order or rule adopted by a political subdivision of this state relating to the collection or sale by a business of a consumer's personal

information. This bill contains penalties, definitions, and extensive details.

The bill passed the House Government Modernization & Technology Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Bus Passenger Safety Act: [SB 562](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvard (R-Wilson) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) modifies the Bus Passenger Safety Act. It defines "rolling stock vehicles" to include buses, vans, cars, railcars, locomotives, trolley cars, ferry boats and vehicles used for support services. It also defines "transit worker" to mean any employee, contractor, or volunteer work on behalf of a transit agency. The bill makes it a crime to force violence, threat of force or violence, size or exercise control of any rolling stock vehicle. In addition, no person shall intimidate, threaten, assault or batter any driver, attendant, guard, transit worker, or passenger or any rolling stock vehicle. The bill lays out the penalties.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Political Subdivision Opioid Abatement Grants: [SB 574](#) by Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) adds approved purpose to include any approved uses authorized by opioid-related settlement agreements in which the State of Oklahoma is a litigant or participant. The bill expands the definition of "political subdivision" to include the board of regents or board of trustees of a state educational institution which is a member of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. The Office of the AG may use not more than ten percent (10%) of the funds for statewide opioid abatement projects that constitute approved use under the Political Subdivision Opioid Abatement Grants Act. The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board shall approve all statewide opioid abatement projects.

The bill passed the House Alcohol, Tobacco & Controlled Substances Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Health & Human Services Oversight Committee.

OK Local Development & Enterprise Zone Incentive Leverage Act: [SB 575](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) 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 House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

OK Quality Events Incentive Act: [SB 578](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) extends the Oklahoma Quality Events Incentive Act through June 30, 2031.

The bill passed the House A&B Natural Resources Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 2. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Tax Compliance/Good Behavior: [SB 583](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) 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 House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

Law Enforcement/Jail Standards: [SB 595](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) creates the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act authorizing the State Commissioner of Health to

promulgate rules to implement jail standards. The bill requires all detention facilities and lockup facilities to operate in compliance with the provisions of the bill. The bill also lists and describes the standards to which all detention facilities shall operate under.

The bill passed the House Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Firearms/Shooting into Buildings: [SB 631](#) by Senate Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) 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 Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Impaired Driving Prevention Advisory Committee: [SB 634](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) and Rep. Ryan Eaves (R-Atoka) expands the membership of the Impaired Driving Prevention Advisory Committee to include the State Commissioner of Health and the Executive Director of ODOT, OMMA, ABLE, OTA, Oklahoma Indigent Defense System and State Board of Pharmacy or their designee.

The bill passed the House Public Safety Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Massage Therapists/Zoning Regulations: [SB 644](#) by Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) and Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) provides exceptions to the exemptions on massage therapists by not affecting the regulations of a city, county, or a political subdivision of this state relating to zoning or licensing requirements for business locations offering massage therapy.

The bill passed the House Public Health Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Health & Human Services Oversight Committee.

Municipal Zoning/Planning Commission: [SB 647](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) while comprehensive plans may be utilized as a guide in the decision-making process, determinations shall be made in light of objective and relevant facts as well as by utilizing processes and requirements outlined in the municipal code. The notice and hearing are intended to provide members of the public with a right to be heard, explain how they think their interests are affected and bring to the attention of the governing body objective and relevant facts. However, decisions on land use applications shall not be based solely upon the presence, numbers or magnitude of opposition or protests in the absence of objectives and relevant facts. Municipal zoning decisions are deemed valid unless the challenging party proves the ordinance lacks a substantial relation to the public health, safety, or general welfare of the public or if a zoning decision constitutes an unreasonable, arbitrary exercise of police power. If the governing body of a municipality does not serve as the board of adjustment, the body may 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 governing body. The measure specifies that land use applications shall not be based solely upon the presence, numbers, or magnitude of opposition or protests in the absence of objective and relevant facts. Municipal platting decisions are quasi-judicial in nature. The planning commission and the governing body of a municipality shall have reasonable discretion to determine the compliance of preliminary and final plats with the municipality's adopted subdivision regulations and all applicable codes and ordinances. If the planning commission and governing body determine the proposed plat is in compliance with the adopted subdivision code, and meets all applicable ordinances, and the governing body and planning commission accept any proposed dedications, if applicable, the plat shall be approved. Compliance with comprehensive plans shall not be a requirement for plat approval. In the case of a preliminary or final plat denial, if requested by the

applicant at the meeting on the vote, the city attorney or contracted counsel shall identify on the record the basis for the denial, including at a minimum all of the applicable objective and relevant facts upon which the denial is based.

The bill passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

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 be limited on 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, beginning in December of 2025, and every four years thereafter. These dates apply to any election held after January 1, 2026.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed House Elections & Ethics Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Use of Deadly Force: [SB 657](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) provides that an officer or other person acting by the officer's command in the officer's aid and assistance whose use of deadly force is found during any pretrial hearing or proceeding to be unjustified pursuant to this section may appeal such ruling to the Court of Criminal Appeals within ten (10) days of the ruling. Priority shall be given to appeals made pursuant to this

subsection and an order staying proceedings shall be entered pending the outcome of the appeal. If an appeal is not brought within ten (10) days of the ruling, the officer waives the right to immediate appeal of the ruling but does not waive any right to assert the claim at trial or upon direct appeal.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 3 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Emergency Management/Governor's Duties: [SB 672](#) by Sen. Julie McIntosh (R-Porter) and Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) prohibits the Governor from closing or forcing to close any business without documented scientific evidence that the nature of a particular business actually contributes to the direct spreading of disease relating to the pandemic. The Governor is required to give notice and hear to any business determined to be nonessential or detrimental to the health and safety of citizens during a pandemic before issuing an executive order against keeping the business open.

The bill passed the House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Municipal Zoning/Charter Schools: [SB 674](#) by Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) and Rep. Chad Caldwell (R-Enid) 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 House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Finance/Surcharge Repealer: [SB 677](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) and Rep. Emily Gise (R-OKC) 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 House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 1. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Detachment/Intervening Strips: [SB 694](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) and Rep. Josh Cantrell (R-Kingston) provides that territory detached from a municipality under certain circumstances shall not be detached if: 1) the territory includes an intervening strip less than four (4) rods wide; 2) the territory is only separated from the corporate limits of a municipality by a railway right-of-way; 3) the territory is a highway right-of-way adjacent to or contiguous with a municipality; or 4) the territory includes properties that will be split in two, resulting in part of the property falling inside the corporate limits of a municipality and part of it falling outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The state, county, or any other political subdivision or governmental entity which will assume responsibility over the proposed detached territory may give written consent to the detachment.

The bill passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

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 House Transportation Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Criminal Disturbance: [SB 743](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) describes acts which constitute disturbance of a religious meeting to include knowingly obstructing, detaining, hindering, impeding, or blocking the entry of another person to or exit from a place where such meeting is held; and knowingly approaching another person within eight (8) feet of such person, unless the other person consents, for the purpose of passing a leaflet or handbill to, displaying a sign to, or engaging in oral protest, education, or counseling with such other person in the public way or sidewalk area within a radius of one hundred (100) feet from any entrance door to a place where the meeting is held. The bill also modifies the punishment for disturbing a religious meeting by providing a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), imprisonment for up to one (1) year in the county jail or both fine and imprisonment. A second or subsequent offense is a felony, punishable by a fine of up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment in DOC for up to two (2) years or both fine and imprisonment.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Architectural & Licensed Interior Designs Act: [SB 751](#) by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) modifies the value of construction value from One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) to Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) of all buildings used by a municipality, county, state, public trust, public agency or federal government that are exempt from the State Architectural & Licensed Interior Designers Act.

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

Law Enforcement/Driving Under Influence: [SB 786](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) prohibits a person from consuming marijuana or inhaling secondhand medical marijuana smoke due to another person's consumption of medical marijuana while operating a motor vehicle on a public highway, street or alley. A person operating a motor vehicle on a public highway, street or alley shall not possess any open container that contains marijuana in the passenger area of the motor vehicle. Any person convicted of violating this section, shall in addition to any fine imposed, pay a special assessment trauma-care fee of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to be deposited in the Trauma Care Assistance Revolving Fund.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/VPO Service: [SB 813](#) by Sen. Ally Seifried (R-Claremore) and Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) requires a peace officer to make every attempt to serve a subject of the victim protection order and complete a return service when filing the petition with the court. If the peace officer is unable to obtain service, the petition shall be filed by a peace officer with the district court the next business day. The court clerk shall receive the petition upon delivery by the peace officer and document the hearing date and time assigned to the case as documented by the peace officer. If the court

clerk observes that service has not been obtained, the petition shall still be filed by the court clerk and issued to the appropriate office of the county sheriff to obtain service with priority. The peace officer requesting the order shall be notified by the judge of the date, time, and courtroom location in which the hearing will be held. The peace officer shall provide the victim and subject of the order with a copy of the completed order and return the original order to the district court.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Elections/Absentee Ballots/First Responders: [SB 814](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Rep. Rob Hall (R-Tulsa) authorizes a first responder or emergency worker or uniformed-service voter to receive an absentee ballot.

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

Law Enforcement/Eluding Officers: [SB 871](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) and Rep. John George (R-Newalla) adds the crime of causing an accident, while eluding or attempting to elude an officer, that results in great bodily injury to the list of eighty-five percent (85%) crimes. Any person 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 minimum 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 House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Local Government Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act: [SB 890](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) transfers the duties from the municipal clerk and county clerk to the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission may post copies of

statements of organization and reports of contributions and expenditures.

The bill passed the House Elections & Ethics Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Construction/Oath: [SB 898](#) by Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) and Rep. Emily Gise (R-OKC) removes the requirement that a written statement under oath must accompany a bid for construction.

The bill passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Aerospace Infrastructure: [SB 920](#) by Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) defines "heliport", "vertiport", and "VTOL aircraft". The bill requires any person erecting or altering a structure within 1-nautical mile of a heliport or vertiport to secure a permit. The bill directs the clearinghouse within the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace to develop a statewide network of UAS and AAM detection systems as well as statewide or regional command, control, and radar systems.

The bill passed the House Transportation Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Military Installations: [SB 930](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-MWC) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) creates a framework to ensure that law enforcement services are accessible on US military installations in Oklahoma, with a primary focus on juvenile matters affecting public safety and welfare. The State of Oklahoma accepts the relinquishment of exclusive jurisdiction over military installations from the federal government, obtaining concurrent jurisdiction for as long as the federal government maintains control of the property.

The Governor shall not accept requests for concurrent jurisdiction unless they meet specific requirements: the identity and authority of the

requestor, clarity regarding the purpose of the request, detailed descriptions of affected properties, and acknowledgment of potential future land acquisitions. The Governor's acceptance of such requests must be documented and filed with the Secretary of State. The state will incur no liabilities through this concurrent jurisdiction arrangement, and they may enter into reciprocal agreements with federal agencies to delineate jurisdictional duties without any obligation to do so.

The bill passed the House Veterans & Military Affairs Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Health & Human Services Oversight Committee.

(OML Priority) 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 passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/DUI/Bail Denial: [SB 981](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes the denial of bail for an individual who has previously been convicted

with two (2) felonies for driving under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances.

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 3 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

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 House General Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

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

Monday, April 14, 2025

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

ODOT/Municipal Streets: [HB 1125](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) and Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) provides that in municipalities with a population of one hundred thousand (100,000) or less for Othe Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) to pay for the installation, repair, and maintenance costs for any curbs, inlets, inlet grates, inlet hoods, and inlet structures on municipal streets that are a continuation of the state or federal highway system except when performing fill and inlay projects.

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

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

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.

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.

DUI/Bail: [HB 1222](#) by Rep. Emily Gise (R-OKC) and 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, whether by telephone or in person. In determining bonds 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.

Assault & Battery Punishment: [HB 1595](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) increases the punishment from thirty (30) days to up to ninety (90) days in the county jail. The bill increases the punishment for assault and battery from ninety (90) days to up to six (6) months in the county jail.

Law Enforcement/Shopping Carts: [HB 1689](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) and Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) 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.

Law Enforcement/Display of Lights/Eluding Officer: [HB 1993](#) by Rep. Tim Turner (R-Kinta) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) clarifies that the display of lights from a peace officer must not be ignored when a peace officer is trying to stop an individual.

**Senate Economic Development, Workforce &
Tourism Committee
2:00 p.m., Room 535**

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