

14-25

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YOUR VOICES MADE A DIFFERENCE

On Wednesday the House of Representatives voted in favor of [SB 535](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) by a [vote](#) of 83 to 5. Thank you again for reaching out to your Representative and encouraging them to support the bill.

The bill amends the Open Records Act in order to provide uniformity, streamline, and clearly outline the open records process for both the records custodian and the requestor while ensuring transparency in government. Fire marshals are added to the definition of law enforcement to clarify that fire marshals are law enforcement when they are acting as fire marshals on behalf of the law enforcement department for the purposes of open records. A deposit system is introduced for requests with estimated fees over Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00), or if the requester has outstanding fees from previous requests. Language is added to clarify that a municipality or other public body may require an individual requesting records to fill out a records request form. A new process is made for how a public body engages and works with open record requests that are not reasonably specific. This language allows a public body to attempt to work with the requestor if the request is not reasonably specific or lacks a general time frame in which the records were created.

The bill goes back to the Senate to accept House amendments, and we have requested for this to be placed on the Senate agenda as soon as possible.

OML was made aware on Wednesday Sen. Green had filed a floor amendment on [HB 1421](#) by Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston). The amendment would have preempted municipality's ability to regulate the retail sale of cats, dogs or any other pets. After hearing from municipal leaders, Sen. Green realized the amendment was too restrictive. He agreed to pull the amendment and send the bill to conference to come up with language similar to a municipality's ability to regulate medical marijuana businesses.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 40 to 5. The bill goes back to the House to reject the Senate amendments and go to conference.

ANNEXATION BILL PASSES SENATE

[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 is not complete within one hundred twenty (120) months from the date of annexation, the territory is to be immediately detached.

The bill passed the Senate with the title stricken on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 1. It now goes back to the House to reject the Senate amendments and go to conference.

OML will continue to offer language to add in a process to object to the annexation without consent, and Senate Leadership has said they won't push this forward if we can't come to a fair compromise.

PLANNING BILL PASSES HOUSE

[SB 647](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) provides that while comprehensive plans are allowed to be used as a guide in the decision-making process, determinations shall be made in light of objective and relevant facts as well as utilizing processes and requirement outlined in the municipal code. The notice and hearing provisions may be applicable, 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. Information presented from the public that is neither objective or relevant shall not be determinative in land use application proceedings. The bill establishes that municipal zoning decisions are deemed valid unless the challenging party proves the ordinance lacks a substantial relation to public health, safety or general welfare of the public in light of objective and relevant facts, or if a zoning decision constitutes an arbitrary exercise of police power. The bill establishes that municipal platting

decisions are quasi-judicial in nature and gives the planning commission and the governing body of a municipality the discretion to determine a plats compliance with regulations, codes, and ordinances. In the case of a preliminary or final plat denial, the city is required to identify the basis for denial. Governing bodies are prohibited from basing their decision making on presented information that is neither objective nor relevant.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 52 to 39. It now goes back to the Senate to reject the House amendments and go to conference.

GOVERNOR VETOES MULTIPLE BILLS

On Monday, Governor Stitt started his week vetoing multiple bills for various reasons.

Newspapers/Publication of Notices: [HB 2167](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) which increased the fees that a newspaper could charge for publishing legal notices. For the first insertion of a notice, the per word fee was increased from fifteen cents (\$0.15) to twenty-two cents (\$0.22). For subsequent insertions, the fee was increased from fourteen cents (\$0.14) to twenty cents (\$0.20) per word. Elimination of space between words or numeric descriptions, or the use of hyphenation to combine words or numeric descriptions was prohibited. For all tabular matters such as graphics, maps, seals, signature blocks, forms and spreadsheets, the per line fee was increased from seventy cents (\$0.70) to One Dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) for the first insertion and from sixty-five cents (\$0.65) to One Dollar (\$1.00) for subsequent insertions. If the total calculated cost of words and lines was less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), then the notice charge would be rounded up to a flat Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

The Governor stated in his [veto message](#) that the bill "would significantly increase the cost for publishing legal notices in newspapers and force newspapers to create a statewide website to house these legal notices electronically, among other things. I have said publicly and repeatedly that we need to lower Oklahomans' financial burden, not raise them. These measures would create unreasonable burdens on private entities and an unreasonable financial

barrier to the just, speedy, and inexpensive resolution of legal disputes.”

CIB/Penalties: [HB 1216](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) which provided 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 Governor stated in his [veto message](#) that HB 1216 “ratchets up subsequent fines levied by the Construction Industries Board to five times their current level. Subsequent fines are already set for any violation, big or small. Quintupling fines on Oklahoma businesses for any regulatory violation, regardless of regulations to public safety, is little more than administrative overreach.”

OK Urban Agriculture Cost-Share Program: [HB 1910](#) by Rep. Arturo Alonso-Sandoval (D-OKC) and Sen. Nikki Nice (D-OKC) created 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 Governor stated in his [veto message](#) that he appreciates the intent behind this legislation, “but I cannot support the invention of new programs with vague goals and no accountability. If local communities want to start gardens or green spaces, they don’t need a government mandate – they need freedom, private partnerships, and fewer obstacles. I won’t ask citizens to foot the bill for a program that should be driven by local businesses, nonprofits, churches, or local governments. For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 1910.”

OSBI/Mass Casualty Revolving Fund: [SB 37](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) defined "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 created a Mass Casualty Revolving Fund.

The Governor stated in his [veto message](#) of SB 37 that “growing government and creating new, unfunded revolving funds will not accomplish that end. Should law enforcement feel it needs more money to protect Oklahomans, they should approach that request through the normal appropriations process.”

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 Governor state in his [veto message](#) that SB 54 “seeks to expand penalties and mandatory sentencing requirements for individuals convicted of driving under the influence, particularly in aggravated cases or for repeat offenses. While I share the Legislature’s commitment to public safety and to holding impaired drivers accountable, I cannot support this bill in its current form. Under current law, aggravated DUI is a misdemeanor,

triggered only when a driver's blood alcohol content (BAC) is 0.15 or higher. Senate Bill 54 would elevate the aggravated DUI to a felony and significantly broaden its scope. A driver could now face felony charges not just for a high BAC, but for conduct such as causing a property-damage accident of over \$500, crossing the center line, speeding more than 20 miles per hour over the limit, or simply having a passenger under the age of 18. Additionally, the bill removes meaningful judicial discretion by mandating jail time and increasing financial penalties, regardless of the individual circumstances of the offense. Our courts must be able to consider the facts of each case and tailor sentences accordingly— especially for nonviolent and first-time offenders. Imposing one-size-fits-all penalties risk unjust outcomes and unnecessary incarceration."

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 Governor stated in his [veto message](#) that "Government shouldn't be in the business of 'gotcha' with hard working business owners. This bill expands the Oklahoma Tax Commission's authority to shut down businesses over easily remedied paperwork errors, even when those businesses worked to fix those errors. Although the bill would also extend the grace period for a noncompliant businesses before closure, I believe this bill will result in more unnecessary business closures. I therefore believe this bill will too harshly penalize hardworking Oklahomans."

The Legislature has until the last day of Session to attempt to override any vetoed legislation.

GOVERNOR SIGNS BILLS

Law Enforcement/Criminal Offense: [HB 1001](#) by Rep. Steve Bashore (R-Miami) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) 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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

Food Truck Freedom Act: [HB 1076](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes a mobile food the 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. The local authority must recognize a state license and authorize the mobile food vendor to operate in their jurisdiction. A local jurisdiction shall also issue a license or permit as long as it does 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 local authority may regulate mobile food vendors' operations as well as other listed powers given to local authorities in this act. However, there are certain things listed in the measure that local authorities are not authorized to do such as prohibit a mobile food vendor from lawfully operating in its jurisdiction if the vendor holds a food establishment license and is in compliance with the act and other listed prohibitions on local authority. Any mobile food vendor who has been notified of a possible suspension or revocation of their license may request an administrative hearing. The State Department of Health may issue civil penalties to a mobile food vendor who operates without a license or with a suspended or revoked license. This act does not require a local authority to adopt a program to regulate of mobile food vendors. A mobile food vendor operating in a county governed by a city-county health department to obtain a local food establishment license.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 went into effect on May 7, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

Workers Compensation/Interns: [SB 95](#) by Sen. Ally Seifried (R-Claremore) and Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) amends the definition of "employee" that are not included in receiving workers' compensation benefits to mean any person engaging in a temporary work arrangement that allows the individual to observe a work environment and gain work experience without expectation of financial compensation.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 went into effect on May 5, 2025.

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

The bill goes into effect on July 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

BILLS BECOME LAW WITHOUT SIGNATURE:

While the Governor's pen was busy signing and vetoing bills, multiple bills became law when they were sent to the Secretary of State without his signature.

Law Enforcement/Retirement Credit: [HB 1027](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) adds police officers who are CLEET-certified and employed by OU or OSU and lake patrolmen or dispatchers of GRDA who participate in the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System.

The bill went into effect on May 6, 2025.

Firefighter Activity Reports: [HB 1052](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) requires the fire chief of a fire department to file the appropriate activity reports utilizing the

National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) with the State Fire Marshal in OKC. The report shall be completed within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident and include fire-related burn injuries and deaths. The bill also applies to Fire Protection Districts.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

Public Trust Hospitals: [HB 2295](#) by Speaker Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) prohibits a public trust hospital license or main provider location under a provider agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), to be transferred from its current address to an address greater than fifteen (15) miles away, if the public trust hospital is located in a community with a population of fewer than thirty thousand (30,000) residents. If a public trust hospital facility announces closure, before the

closure, a mediator shall be appointed. The municipality beneficiary of the public trust shall also appoint a mediator, and the two mediators appoint an agreed-upon third mediator. All three mediators shall agree to a sales price for the hospital if this cannot occur without mediation. The hospital will be transferred to the beneficiary municipality if they are willing to pay the agreed-upon price and have the staff to run the hospital. In the event the public trust hospital is sold to another entity, the trustees of the hospital must certify that they haven't entered into any agreement regarding any position, role, or employment for themselves or direct relatives and that they won't receive any financial benefits from the potential owners. In the event that a public third party has been leasing the public trust hospital, the CMS provider number will revert back to the public trust hospital immediately after lease termination. The public trust hospital trustees shall complete a trustee education program, approved in advance by a statewide hospital organization. Trustee education shall commence within ninety (90) days of appointment to the office of trustees for the public trust hospital.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

Law Enforcement/Sexual Assault Victims/Information: [HB 2705](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) directs law enforcement agencies to inform sexual assault victims of the status of evidence in his or her case. The law enforcement agency may require the request to be in writing. The bill prohibits the disclosure of evidence, information or results that would impede or compromise an ongoing criminal investigation from being included.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 systems to obtain certification from DEQ.

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

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 goes into effect 90 days after Sine Die.

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

The bill goes into effect on November 1, 2025.

BILLS MOVE TO GOVERNOR'S DESK

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 on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 0. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

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 Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 36 to 9. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 37 to 4. It moved to the Governor's desk on Tuesday.

Harassment/First Responders: [HB 1597](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) makes it a crime for a person, after receiving a verbal warning not to approach a person who is a first responder, who is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty, to knowingly and willfully violate such warning and approach or

remain within twenty-five (25) feet of the first responder with the intent to: impede or interfere with the ability of the first responder to perform such duty; threaten the first responder with physical harm; or harass the first responder. A person, upon conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year or by a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or both.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 6. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

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 while transporting or having a child in the vehicle.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. It moved to the Governor's desk on Tuesday.

Public Trust Hospitals/Open Meetings & Open Records: [HB 1738](#) by Stacy Jo Adams (R-Duncan) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) 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 Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 6. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

Fire Protection/Child Care Homes: [HB 1847](#) by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (D-Tulsa) and Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) requires DHS to work with the State Fire Marshal to develop guidelines that allow family

childcare homes and large childcare homes to operate under the requirements of the 2018 International Residential Code adopted by OUBCC. Family childcare homes and large childcare homes shall not be denied a license to operate should they comply with the requirements. No agency, municipality, county or other political subdivision shall place a stricter fire requirement than those outlined in the 2018 International Residential Code as adopted by OUBCC on the family and large childcare homes.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 0. It moved to the Governor's desk on Tuesday.

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.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

OUBCC: [HB 2085](#) by Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (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.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 7. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

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 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 on Monday by a [vote](#) of 40 to 5. It moved to the Governor's desk on Tuesday.

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 when 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.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 31 to 12. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

Real Estate Contracts: [SB 198](#) by Sen. Michael Brooks (D-OKC) and Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) authorizes a municipality, county and state the ability to enter into a real estate contract for the sale, conveyance, or exchange of real property, option to purchase real property, or a lease with an option to purchase real property may include a contingency, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, for the purposes of securing required permits, lot changes, zoning changes, and any other land use approvals necessary to use and operate the real property.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 89 to 0. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

OK Housing Authorities Act: [SB 333](#) by Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) modifies the Oklahoma Housing Authorities Act. The bill broadens the definition of "area of operation" to include in the case of an authority of a city or of a county and only for the purpose of construction or rehabilitation projects, beginning on the effective date of this act, anywhere within this state; provided such city or county

housing authority has consulted with the city, county or counties and all other active and duly certified city and county housing authorities, if any, where the project or projects are located.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 78 to 16. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

Public Highways: [SB 375](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) and Rep. Ronny Johns (R-Ada) allows officers of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to police and set speed limits on roads located on lands owned by a state beneficiary public trust if the trust has entered into an interlocal agreement with the Commissioner of Public Safety to allow DPS to police these roads. The bill also allows a state beneficiary public trust to pass a resolution to close, reopen, or re-close the public use of its roadway if the roadway is not located within the boundaries of a municipality and is not designated for public use. Such closure shall not leave any property owned by the trust without contiguous access to a roadway, whether a public right-of-way or a roadway owned by the trust. If a roadway is closed and the right to reopen the roadway is foreclosed by the district court of the county where the road is located shall be permanent and not subject to reopen.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 85 to 2. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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 on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 80 to 7. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

Open Meeting Act/Executive Session: [SB 491](#) by Sen. Brian Guthrie (R-Bixby) and Sen. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) authorizes each public body to enter executive session to discuss the sale, lease, or acquisition of real property by the public body.

The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 89 to 2. It now moves to the Governor's desk.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 66 to 17. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 66 to 24. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 68 to 15. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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 on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 80 to 10. It moved to the Governor's desk on Thursday.

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 on Monday by a [vote](#) of 86 to 4. It moved to the Governor's desk on Tuesday.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 82 to 4. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 74 to 12. It moved to the Governor's desk on Wednesday.

BILLS ON THE MOVE:

Law Enforcement/Statutory Rape: [HB 1003](#) by Rep. Jim Olsen (R-Roland) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) increases the age for statutory rape when the victim is under the age of sixteen (16) to eighteen (18) years of age. No one can be convicted

of rape or rape by instrumentation with anyone sixteen (16) years of age or older, with his or her consent, unless the person is more than four (4) years older than the other person.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday with the titled restored by a [vote](#) of 41 to 0. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

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's license for ninety (90) days; or a payment of restitution.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday with the titled restored by a [vote](#) of 38 to 0. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Firearms/Municipal Carry Act: [HB 1095](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) creates the Municipal Carry Act. The bill authorizes the governing body of a city or town to authorize the concealed carry of handguns into any building or office space that is owned or leased by a city or town, except those listed in paragraph 2 of this subsection. Elected officials of a municipality, as well as municipal employees approved by the governing body may carry a concealed handgun when acting in the performance of their duties within municipal buildings that are within the jurisdiction of the elected official or municipal employee. A firearm may not be present inside a firearm-prohibited location which includes: any building or office space on municipally owned or leased property designated as a firearm-prohibited location, 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 delinquent or adjudicated delinquent. Any municipal judge who is in possession of a valid handgun license may carry when acting in the course and scope of employment within the courthouse of the municipality that is within the jurisdiction of the municipal judge. Nothing shall in this law require an elected official or designated employees of the municipality to carry a firearm as a condition of employment or service with the municipality.

The bill passed the Senate by a [vote](#) of 39 to 8. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

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 on Monday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 8. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Business Courts/OK & Tulsa Counties: [HB 1562](#) by Rep. Collin Duel (R-Guthrie) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) creates a business court division within the district court of any judicial district containing a municipality with a population in excess of five hundred thousand (500,000). Each business court division created shall hereinafter be categorized and named numerically. Business Court Division I shall be located in OK County and Business Court Division II shall be located in Tulsa County. The bill establishes the Joint Committee on Judicial Vacancy Appointments that will be responsible for providing a list of five nominees to the Governor for consideration for a business court judge appointment. The committee will be made up of ten (10) members appointed by the Speaker and President Pro Tempore of the Senate; eight (8) of the members will be from the majority party and two (2) will be from the minority party. The business court judges have eight (8) year terms. The bill also outlines the qualifications to serve as a business court judge. Qualifications include being at least thirty-five (35) years of age, being a United States

citizen and having at least ten (10) or more years of civil litigation experience. Lastly, the measure outlines the authority, jurisdiction and filing fees for the business courts. Cases under the purview of a business court must have a minimum claim amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) and must be resolved within twelve (12) months unless an extension is requested by the disputing parties. The Supreme Court is authorized to provide for electronic filing. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall promulgate rules for the filing of documents transmitted by electronic device.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 35 to 12. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime: [HB 1592](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) defines "organized retail crime" based on specific circumstances involving theft, retail theft, or larceny. It establishes penalties based on the value of stolen property is less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) can be punished by imprisonment up to five (5) years in DOC or in the county jail for a term not to exceed one (1) year, or a One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) fine for property valued below Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00); up to eight (8) years in prison or a One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) fine for property valued at Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) or more. It mandates restitution to victims as per Section 991f of Title 22. The term "municipalities" is added to the definition of the locations where a person can engage in a pattern of criminal offenses, expanding the scope of jurisdictions. The bill recreates the Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime Task Force to continue until June 1, 2026. The members that are currently serving will automatically continue. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to staff the task force. The Office of the AG may employ, either directly or through memorandums of understanding or cross-deputization agreements, people to serve as Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime Task Force officers whose primary responsibility is to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute criminal violations related to organized crime.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 6. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

OWRB/Metering Wells: [HB 1807](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) and Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) requires OWRB to require that all permit holders authorized to take and use groundwater to implement a system of measuring groundwater usage from all wells associated with the permit. OWRB shall determine which measurement systems may be utilized, which shall include, but not be limited to, pump and irrigation monitoring telemetry devices capable of reporting usage. Such measuring systems should be in proper operating conditions at all times when groundwater is being produced. Data from the measuring system shall be utilized for the annual groundwater use report. Beginning January 1, 2026, a five-year flex allocation of groundwater usage based off the previously determined allocated annual use of the basin or subbasin. A five-year flex allocation shall not require a new permit for existing permit holders. An applicant for a five-year application shall be required to submit an annual usage report and pay the annual permit fee. A five-year flex allocation shall allow the permit holder to exceed the determined allocation in any of the five-year allocations, provided the applicant shall adhere to the cumulative maximum annual yield for the basin or subbasin over the five-year period. They may not exceed their permitted amount by over two hundred percent (200%) in any of the five (5) years. This does not apply to domestic wells.

The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 31 to 14. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

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 on Wednesday with the enacting clause stricken by a [vote](#) of 46 to 0. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Fighting Chance for Firefighters Act: [HB 2011](#) by Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) creates the Fighting Chance for Firefighters Act to cover the costs of occupational cancer screenings. The bill creates an income tax credit equal to the unreimbursed cost incurred by a firefighter for the cost of medical procedures to detect any form of cancer beginning in tax year 2026. The individual credit is capped at Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) per taxable year, incurred by a firefighter for the cost of medical procedures to detect any form of cancer. The credit may be carried forward up to five (5) years. The bill caps statewide awards for the credit at One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) per year.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 33 to 11. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Law Enforcement/Dual Office Holding: [HB 2083](#) by Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) adds an exemption for dual office holding for a campus police officer who is elected as a member of the governing board of a town or municipality that is outside of the town or municipality where the person serves as a campus police officer.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 43 to 2. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Municipal Code Lien Enforcement Act: [HB 2147](#) by Rep. Mike Lay (R-Jenks) and Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) creates the Municipal Code Lien Enforcement Act of 2025. It applies to any municipal governing body that adopts the provisions of this act and is 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 on municipality's housing and building codes may be enforced in rem as a lien in accordance with this act, provided however, such enforcement shall not commence until the cumulative amount of fees, penalties, and abatement costs outstanding equals or exceed One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). Municipalities may proceed with judicial in rem foreclosures of municipal code liens by an enactment of an ordinance or resolution of city 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 entities are 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 things 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 s 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 was [amended](#) and passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 29 to 17. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Law Enforcement/Oklahoma Elected Official and Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2025: [HB 2289](#) by Speaker Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) creates the Oklahoma Elected Official and Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2025. The bill adds current elected federal officials of this state, and any state official elected statewide to the list of entities that may request state agencies to redact certain information from public documents to keep their private information confidential.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 0. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Mobile Food Trucks/Fire Marshal: [HB 2459](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) requires all mobile food preparation vehicles that are capable of producing smoke or

grease-laden vapors to be in compliance with the most current adopted fire code. This requirement shall extend to vehicles utilizing electric energy, liquefied petroleum gas, compressed natural gas, or a combination thereof for cooking. All mobile food preparation vehicles utilizing any liquefied petroleum gas system, equipment, container, apparatus, or appliance shall receive and maintain a permit from the Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas Administration in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal. Beginning January 1, 2026, the specific provisions outlined shall expire and such operators shall comply with the most current adopted fire code. Mobile food preparation vehicles shall be under the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, who shall conduct inspections based on four (4) quadrants of the state and twice with each county with a population exceeding four hundred thousand (400,000). Nothing shall prevent a political subdivision from enforcing the 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 the political subdivision. The State Fire Marshal may promulgate rules necessary to implement this act. Such rules shall have uniform force and effect throughout this state and no political subdivision or other agency shall enact or enforce any fire or life safety code-related ordinances, rules or the requirements for mobile food preparation vehicles, except in a county with a population exceeding four hundred thousand (400,000). The State Fire Marshal shall also issue an operational permit decal indicating that the vehicle meets the minimum fire and life code requirements.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 33 to 13. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Public Nuisances: [HB 2622](#) by Rep. Erick Harris (R-Edmond) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) makes the repeated use of any real property or structure to commit activities of unlawful drug distribution, prostitution, or human and/or sex trafficking as a public nuisance. The bill also deems that manufacturing, marketing and selling lawful products are not deemed a public nuisance. The bill also adds the remedy of seeking injunctive or other equitable relief. To be found liable in an action for

public nuisance, the defendant must be determined by the court to have been in control of the conditions giving rise to the nuisance at the time of the injury. A private person may maintain an action for a public nuisance if the court finds clear and convincing evidence that the nuisance is the proximate cause of special injury to the private person.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 7. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

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 on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 7. The bill goes back to the House to accept or reject the Senate amendments.

Law Enforcement/CLEET Director: [SB 91](#) by Sen. Tom Woods (R-Westville) and Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) modifies the qualifications of the Executive Director of CLEET by removing the requirement that a person must possess a bachelor's degree in law enforcement. The bill requires the appointee to possess a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the field of law enforcement as a supervisor or a minimum of five (5) years of experience in law enforcement and a degree from a four-year college in law enforcement administration, law, criminology, or related science.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 87 to 1. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

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 House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 82 to 1. The Senate rejected the House amendments on Thursday and requested conference.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 87 to 1 . The bill moves back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

Law Enforcement/Emerson Kate Cole Act: [SB 331](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) creates the Emerson Kate Cole Act. It requires a school employee to contact 911 as soon as possible in the event Epinephrine is administered to a student. The school district must notify the parent or legal guardian of a student who experiences a possible allergic reaction as soon as possible. The bill directs the State Board of Education's model policy on self-treatment and self-administration of certain medications to include at a minimum the required annual training for teachers and school employees who are directly responsible for students on the topics of food allergies, recognizing anaphylaxis, and instruction on administering Epinephrine. It allows the training to be provided in-person or online.

The bill passed the House on Thursday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 90 to 0. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

Law Enforcement/Bus Passenger Safety Act: [SB 562](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) and Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) modifies the Bus Passenger Safety Act. It defines "rolling stock transit vehicles" to include buses, vans, cars, railcars, locomotives, trolley cars, ferry boats and vehicles used for transporting the public. services. The bill makes it a crime to intimidate, threaten, assault, or batter any driver, attendant, guard, or passenger of any rolling stock transit vehicle or cause disruption to the provided service or cause harm to any person. The bill lays out the penalties.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 93 to 0. The bill moves back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

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-numbered 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 passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 93 to 0. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

Finance/Surcharge Repealer: [SB 677](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) and Rep. Emily Gise (R-OKC) allows a seller to offer discounts to a consumer that elects to pay by cash, check or debit card in lieu of payment by credit card. There shall be no limit on the discount that may be offered by the seller. Pursuant to the regulations of the Administrator, a seller who provides a discount not in accordance with regulations shall disclose such information to the Administrator. Any seller that wishes to impose a surcharge for credit card transactions is required to clearly post a notice about the surcharge for both in-store and online transactions. If the transaction is processed over the phone, the surcharge must be verbally disclosed to the consumer. The surcharge is limited to two percent (2%) of the total transaction amount or the processing cost for the retailer, whichever is less.

The bill defines "credit card", "seller", and "surcharge". If the seller only accepts credit cards for payment, no surcharge may be imposed. The bill repeals Title 14A, Section 2-417 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which bans surcharges for credit and debit card transactions. The bill leaves in the language that allows a public trust or municipality the ability to charge service fees as a result of providing the transaction.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 91 to 2. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 84 to 1. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

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 on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 73 to 21. The bill goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

Law Enforcement/Dual Office Holding: [SB 1091](#) by Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) and Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) allows a campus police officer who is elected to serve as an elected member of the governing board of a town or municipality that is outside of the town or municipality where the person serves as a campus police officer.
