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February 6, 2026

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

Oklahoma Municipal League  
201 N.E. 23rd Street  
OKC, OK 73105  
Phone: 1-800-324-6651 /  
405-528- 7515  
Fax: 405-528-7560  
Email: [leslie@oml.org](mailto:leslie@oml.org)  
Internet: [www.oml.org](http://www.oml.org)



### GROUNDHOG DAY AS STITT DELIVERS FINAL STATE OF THE STATE

As the groundhog saw his shadow with the prediction of six (6) more weeks of winter, the Oklahoma Legislature began the Second Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Oklahoma Legislature with Governor Stitt delivering his 8<sup>th</sup> and final State of the State address. Some of his priorities include calling for state ballot questions that would place a 3% cap on annual spending growth and lock in cuts with ironclad rules, a statewide property tax freeze, repealing the medical marijuana industry, and making the Superintendent of Education an appointed position rather than elected. [Click the link to read the rest of his speech.](#)

This is the first issue of the Oklahoma Municipal League's 2026 weekly Legislative Advocate. The Advocate is intended to give you a brief look at important issues facing cities and towns during the legislative process. This Session the House and Senate filed 2,648 new bills and joint resolutions. There are currently 2,628 bills carried over from last Session, so 5,276 bills are available for consideration at the beginning of this Legislative Session. The bills on OML's tracking list cover firearms, tax exemptions, open records, nondisclosure agreements, data centers, homelessness, environmental and water along with many other issues.

Your OML Governmental Affairs team has combed through each piece of legislation filed and we are working diligently to contact legislators and advocate municipal priorities on these bills. If you have questions at any time, please contact our office. Please pass along any concerns, ideas, or correspondence about legislation you have to Leslie Blair, Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, at [leslie@oml.org](mailto:leslie@oml.org), or 405-528-7515.

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## OML'S PRIORITIES

**OML Priority/Firearms/Judges:** [HB 3062](#) by Sen. Derrick Hildebrandt (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) extends the authority to carry firearms to retired municipal judges.

The bill has been assigned to the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee and then to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

It is scheduled to be heard in the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in Room 4S.5.

**OML Priority/Public Utility/Limiting Liability:** [HB 3883](#) by Rep. Josh Cantrell (R-Catoosa) directs the governing body of the public utility to engage users of the public utility system to be advised of their responsibility to properly use the system and methods to safeguard against system malfunctions, including but not limited to, the following: 1) adopt a "fats, oils and grease ordinance" (FOG); 2) adopt an ordinance requiring new construction to be connected to sanitary sewer system or remodels of existing commercial and residential buildings that are connected to the sanitary sewer system, to include the installation of backflow-prevention devices; 3) periodically advise private residential property owners to install a backflow-prevention device on the private service line. At the discretion of the governing body, public assistance with installation and inspection of backflow-prevention devices may be offered; and 4) advise public utility customers of backflow-prevention devices to be satisfied by annual publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the service area, publication on the public utility or city-sponsored website, or annual inserts in ratepayer monthly utility bills. A public utility that implements the standards shall be considered in conformance with the prescribed requirements and recognized standards for operation and as such shall not be liable if a loss or claim results. Third party contractors have an affirmative defense against administrative penalties from DEQ for deficiencies pre-dating their contract, contingent on a detailed corrective action plan submission. Public utility systems and contractors will not be liable for violations under previous operators, with the

requirement to submit a compliance restoration plan approved by DEQ.

The bill has been assigned to the House County & Municipal Government Committee and then to the House Government Oversight Committee.

It is scheduled to be heard in the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in Room 206.

**OML Priority/OUBCC/Single Stair Policy:** [HB 4203](#) by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber (D-Tulsa) requires the OUBCC to develop guidelines and revisions to the International Building Code that permit Group R-2 occupancies to be served by a single exit, provided that the building has no more than four stories above grade plane.

The bill has been assigned to the House Rules Committee.

**OML Priority/Publication of Ordinance:** [HB 4303](#) by Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) increases the timeline for when an ordinance is published from fifteen (15) days to thirty (30) days.

The bill has been assigned to the House County & Municipal Government Committee and then to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**OML Priority/Publication of Ordinance:** [SB 1265](#) by Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) increases the timeline for when an ordinance is published from fifteen (15) days to thirty (30) days.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Local & County Government Committee.

**OML Priority/FEMA Funding:** [HB 3247](#) by Rep. John Waldron (D-Tulsa) requires the State's matching requirements for federal funds be equally shared by the State and the political subdivision which receives Public Assistance Program resources administered by FEMA as result of a federally declared disaster.

The bill has been assigned to the House A&B General Government Subcommittee and then to the House Appropriations Committee.

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**OML Priority/FEMA/Reimbursements:** [SB 1288](#) by Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) requires the state's share of matching requirements for federal funds to be equally shared by this state and any political subdivisions of this state that receive public assistance program resources administered by FEMA as a result of a federally declared disaster.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Local & County Government Committee and then to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**OML Priority/Producer Licensing Act:** [SB 1765](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) and Rep. Mark Tedford (R-Tulsa) requires any commissions, service fees, brokerages, or other valuable consideration to be disclosed in an itemized list in advance of the services provided as they relate to the Oklahoma Producer Licensing Act.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Business & Insurance Committee.

**OML Priority/Sales Tax Exemption/Public Trusts:** [HB 4178](#) by Clay Staires (R-Skiatook) expands a sales tax exemption for a public trust, organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 176 et seq. of Title 60 of the Oklahoma Statutes, with a municipality or public trust.

The bill has been assigned to the House A&B Finance Subcommittee and then to the House Appropriations Committee.

**OML Priority/Sales Tax Exemption/Public Trusts:** [HB 4304](#) by Rep. Rande Worthen (R-Lawton) modifies the sales tax exemption for cities, towns, counties, rural water districts, public trusts and school districts and authorizes a political subdivision or agency to designate by contract an agent to make purchases of personal property wherein such sale would be exempt. The exemption applies to sales to the organization as well as to sales to any person with whom the organization has duly entered into a construction contract necessary for carrying out such contract or to any subcontractor to such a construction contract.

The bill has been assigned to the House Appropriations and Budget Committee.

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**OML Priority/Sales Tax Exemption/Public Trusts:** [SB 1851](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) provides a sales tax exemption for public trusts in which the municipality is the beneficiary.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee and then to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

#### **BILLS ON THE MOVE:**

**Firearms/Public Lakes or Waterways:** [HB 2937](#) by Rep. Jim Olsen (R-Roland) allows for the carry of firearms on vessels on public lakes or waterways.

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

**Law Enforcement/CLEET Director:** [HB 3055](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) requires the Executive Director of CLEET to be a certified peace officer in this state.

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.

**OML Priority/Oklahoma Common Cents Act:** [HB 3075](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrandt (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) creates a discretionary rounding rule for cash payments received by political subdivisions between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2027. After July 1, 2027, rounding is mandatory as follows: the payment is made in cash so that an amount ending in: 1) one cent (\$0.01) or two cents (\$0.02) is rounded down to zero (0); 2) three cents (\$0.03) or four cents (\$0.04) is rounded up to five cents (\$0.05); 3) six cents (\$0.06) or seven cents (\$0.07) is rounded down to five cents (\$0.05); and 4) eight cents (\$0.08) or nine cents (\$0.09) is rounded up to ten cents (\$0.10). This does not apply to any payment made by check, debit card, credit card, electronic or digital payment or other similar form of payment. For payment of ad valorem taxes, the overage or underage of cash payments shall be accounted for by the county's portion of unappropriated revenue for the general fund. Any political subdivision of the state may account for any

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over or under cash payments from a fund under its control as determined by the governing body.

The bill passed the House General Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House General Government Oversight Committee.

**Firefighters/Registered Sex Offenders:** [HB 3082](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) prohibits any fire department to employ any person as a firefighter who has received a guilty verdict or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any offense required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act. Any person who violates this act, upon conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor. A "firefighter" is defined as a volunteer or a permanent salaried professional member of any fire department within the State of Oklahoma.

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.

**Open Meetings Act/Attorney General:** [HB 3278](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) authorizes the AG to determine after an investigation, by the greater weight of the evidence, that a public body, agency, or officer has violated the Open Meeting Act to enter into a consent order with a public body, agency or officer or may issue a finding of violation. If the AG enters into a consent agenda, the consent order may contain admissions of fact any or all of the following: for a first-time violation, there is required completion of training approved by the AG concerning the requirements of the Open Meeting Act; impose civil penalties up to One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for each violation; and language that the public body will comply with the Open Meeting Act. If the AG issues a finding of violation to a public body, agency or a officer, the finding may require any or all of the following: cease and desist from further violations of the Open Meetings act; comply with the provisions of the Act; complete training approved by the AG; and pay a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for each violation. The AG may apply to the district court to enforce a consent order or finding of violation.

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

**Food Truck/Fire Suppression:** [HB 3369](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) exempts mobile food vehicles that do not have an automatic fire extinguishing system from the requirement to install them, as long as they have at least two (2) portable fire extinguishers installed in their vehicles and all employees receive annual fire safety training.

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.

**Corruption Use of Information:** [HB 3419](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) prohibits current or former officers, employees, or contractors of a political subdivision from using nonpublic information for personal gain or benefit. Violations shall be grounds for removal.

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

**GTCA/Public Trust:** [HB 3648](#) by Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) modifies the definition of "public trust" to include a public trust created pursuant to Section 3224 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes and any sole member not-for-profit corporation of the public trust and any sole member not-for-profit subsidiary of such corporation.

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

**Employment/E-Verify:** [HB 3725](#) by Rep. Jim Shaw (R-Chandler) requires all Oklahoma-registered employers to use an e-verification system for citizenship or immigration status verification for new hires, impacting full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees. The bill defines a status verification system as either the federal E-Verify Program or any equivalent federal or approved

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third-party system. Exceptions are made for independent contractors, non-employees, and returning seasonal employees under certain conditions. Agricultural employers can use designated third parties for e-verification checks. The Department of Labor is tasked with implementing an online portal providing relevant resources and training, with different deadlines for compliance based on employer. Employers with fifty or more employees shall begin using the status verification system within ninety (90) days and all other employers shall begin using the verification system within one hundred eighty (180) days. Additionally, the Department will publish annual compliance reports, with data presented in aggregate form, protecting individual identities unless an enforcement action has been finalized. Penalties for deliberate non-compliance include fines ranging from One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense, escalating to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per month for continuous employment of non-confirmed individuals, and One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for repeat offenses. Compliance leniency is allowed during the appeal or resolution of tentative no confirmation, provided federal procedures are followed.

The bill failed to receive a "Do Pass" motion in the House Business Committee on Tuesday. Therefore, it remains property of the Committee.

**Local Development Act:** [HB 3841](#) by Rep. Tom Gann (R-Inola) modifies the language referring to "blight". The proposed projects require approval by a majority of the voters in the applicable jurisdiction. Any local taxing jurisdiction that does not separately approve the formation of an increment district shall not be included in the district and its tax revenues shall not be apportioned for use of the increment district.

The bill removes the confidential protection of any information relating to marketing plans, financial statements, trade secrets or proprietary information. It also prohibits the use of executive sessions to discuss such information. The bill prohibits any member of the review committee from accepting anything of value. The bill requires any member of the review committee to complete at least twelve

(12) hours of instruction on the Local Development Act. The review committee must meet at least once annually and must provide balanced viewpoints and secure professional evaluations before making project recommendations. Financial and operational information of involved enterprises and economic study become compulsory in the review process.

The bill was laid over in the House Business Committee on Tuesday. The committee chairman has given Rep. Gann an opportunity to try and adjust language and promised another hearing once it is done.

**GTCA/Housing of Inmates:** [HB 3974](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) limits the actions of the GTCA in an instance of a shared inmate housing facility by any combination of the state, cities, or counties, any otherwise allowable action or recovery by or on behalf of an inmate, shall be limited to the specific state, city, or county responsible for placing the inmate in such shared inmate housing facility.

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

**Outdoor Sirens/Tampering Fines:** [HB 4107](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) makes it makes it unlawful to willfully or knowingly tamper with, activate, attempt to activate, or cause to be activated an outdoor warning siren without proper authorization. Punishment is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), up to one (1) year in the county jail or both fine and imprisonment. If an unauthorized activation causes a false emergency response or public panic, the offense becomes a felony punishable by up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), up to one (1) year in the county jail or both fine and imprisonment. The bill defines "authorized person" and "outdoor warning siren".

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.

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**Open Records/Law Enforcement Records: [HB 4144](#)** by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) requires law enforcement agencies to make all arrest and incident reports available for public inspection.

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

**Law Enforcement/Accidents: [SB 1226](#)** by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Mark Tedford (R-Tulsa) expands the criteria by which a person must remain at the scene or make notification of a car accident.

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

**OWRB/Water Infrastructure Enhancement Program: [SB 1333](#)** by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) authorizes OWRB to establish and administer a Water Infrastructure Enhancement Program for the purpose of securing long-term stability and modernizing essential water infrastructure in this state. OWRB must include but not be limited to deliver grants to communities in need; deploy a water education outreach campaign; incentivize regional water system planning grants; expand current programs; deploy environmental compliance programs; and other actions OWRB deems pertinent. OWRB is authorized to enter into contracts with financial institutions to execute such instruments and disseminate funds. Monies allocated to the Fund may be expended in the following allotments: twenty percent (20%) for REAP; ten percent (10%) for technical assistance, regional planning and outreach programs; fifty percent (50%) for OWRB Low-Interest Revolving Fund; and twenty percent (20%) to launch a site-ready grant program. There is Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00) appropriated to the Fund.

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

**OWRB/Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program: [SB 1346](#)** by Sen. Tom Woods (R-Westville) requires OWRB to establish and

administer a Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program. The program shall include development of competitive loans for eligible entities seeking to develop and implement water or wastewater improvement projects. OWRB shall promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of this act and loan criteria for the program. Loan applications shall be ranked on criteria. All loans must include a claw back provision in the funding agreement with an eligible entity. OWRB shall create and publish an interactive map on their website displaying the critical infrastructure needs showing the status of proposed and approved projects, estimated completion dates and any other information deemed necessary by OWRB. Loan monies shall be allocated based on the most current census data available and shall be as follows: 25% for projects located within a municipality or county with a population of more than four hundred thousand (400,000); 25% for projects located within a municipality or county with a population that is greater than thirty thousand (30,000) but less than four hundred thousand (400,000); and 50% for projects located within a municipality or county with a population of less than thirty thousand (30,000). There is an appropriation of Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) to perform the duties imposed upon OWRB.

The bill passed the Senate Energy Committee with the title stricken on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Law Enforcement Records/Scene Specific Information: [SB 1479](#)** by Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) defines "first responder", "investigating agency" and "scene support personnel". No first responder or scene support personnel shall release to the public any scene-specific information or transmit to a social media site any photographic image or video taken at a collision or crime scene without prior authorization from the investigating agency. The bill does not prevent OSBI or OHP from transmitting information when a law enforcement agency requests investigative assistance. Any agency or entity that employs first responders or scene support personnel must notify the employees within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this act. Any person convicted shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed

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One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed sixty (60) days or both.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday with the title stricken by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate floor.

**OWRB/Maximum Yield:** [SB 1509](#) by Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) removes OWRB from conducting at least one public hearing regarding the basin or subbasin establishing well spacing. OWRB may adopt specific spacing for each basin as part of establishing a maximum annual yield.

The bill passed the Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate floor.

**Preemption/ Municipal Zoning /Home-based Business:** [SB 1519](#) by Sen. Julie McIntosh (R-Porter) and Rep. Rob Hall (R-Tulsa) prohibits any municipal body from enforcing any regulation that prohibits the operation of a no-impact home-based business within the limits of the municipality or requires the person operating such a business to own the property the business operates from. The municipality may not require such people to file for rezoning or to install a fire suppression system. The municipality may require such people to comply with relevant federal and state regulations and be compatible with the residential use of the property where such business is located. The business must be secondary to the actual use of the property.

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

**Law Enforcement/Mary Rippy Violent Crime Offenders Registration Act:** [SB 1608](#) by Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) modifies the scope of requirements for the Oklahoma Sex Offender Registry and the Mary Rippy Violent Crim Offenders Registry to include school location, place of worship, and employer. The registries shall have the ability to be searchable by school, place of worship, and employer.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate floor.

**Municipal Enforcement & Penalties:** [SB 1775](#) by Sen. Roland Pedersen (R-Burlington) clarifies that penalties for certain municipal ordinances may be equal to penalties in state statute.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate floor.

**Development Incentives:** [SB 1900](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) requires any business entity that receives direct funding from the state or receives incentives, to provide an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the value of the incentives or funds be paid to the political subdivision in which the project or entity is located. The bill lists several programs that require payment. The payment shall be allocated as follows: if the entity or project for which incentives or funds are received is located in a town or municipality, the payment shall go to such town or municipality. If the entity or project for which payment or incentive is received is in an unincorporated area, the payment goes to the county. If the entity or project is located outside a town or municipality, but the entity or project utilizes the infrastructure, including, but not limited to, utilities, roads or facilities, seventy-five percent (75%) of the payment shall go to the town or municipality, and twenty-five percent (25%) to the county. Payments received by the towns, municipalities, and counties shall be expended exclusively for infrastructure.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Building Permits/County Assessors:** [SB 2080](#) by Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) requires the clerk of any municipality located within the boundaries of a county with a population of four hundred thousand fifty thousand (450,000) or more or any other designated employee or office authorized to issue building permits to electronically submit on a weekly basis copies of building permits and

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certificates to the county assessor for the county in which the permit was issued.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate floor.

### NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

Monday, February 9, 2026

#### Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee

10:00 a.m., Room 230

**Forest Fire Prevention/Burn Bans:** [SB 2138](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) requires landowners to have a written prescribed burn plan that provides detailed information such as the purpose for the burn, contact information, firebreaks, potential weather and safety plans for the parcel of land to be covered by the Oklahoma Prescribed Burn Indemnity Fund (Fund). The Fund will not reimburse the participating landowner for damages incurred on his or own property. Landowners are required to notify adjacent landowners and local authorities prior to conducting a burn. There is a filing fee of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to accompany the plan. The maximum amount the Fund shall pay for losses from any one prescribed fire event is One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00)

#### **House A&B Sub: Natural Resources Subcommittee**

10:30 a.m., Room 5s2

**Oklahoma Biosolids Land Application Research Pilot Program Act:** [HB 3403](#) by Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky (R-Balko) creates at OSU the Oklahoma Biosolids Land Application Research Pilot Program "Pilot Program". The Pilot Program shall be administered by DEQ in cooperation with OSU. The Pilot Program shall operate for an initial five-year period, unless extended by the Legislature. The Pilot Program lists several items it will do including coordinating with DEQ and may utilize biosolids supplied by Oklahoma municipal wastewater treatment facilities that meet DEQ and EPA standards and provide outreach and education to Oklahoma farmers, ranchers, conservation districts, and municipalities through OSU extension programs. A report shall be submitted annually to

the Governor, Speaker, Pro Tempore, and DEQ regarding the findings, data, and recommendations. The Pilot Program may be funded by legislative appropriations, federal research grants, municipal contributions, private or industry research partnerships, or in-kind contributions of biosolids or laboratory services.

#### **House Agriculture Committee**

3:00 p.m., Room 206

**Oklahoma Scrap Metal Dealers Act:** [HB 3728](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) moves the regulation of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act from the ODAFF to DEQ.

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

#### **House Business Committee**

10:30 a.m., Room 4s.5

**Firefighter Extinguisher Licensing Act:** [HB 3081](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) lowers the age for an individual obtaining a fire extinguisher license from twenty-one (21) years of age to eighteen (18). The bill removes requirements for a license. The bill also adds that the State Fire Marshal shall issue all licenses. These licenses shall be valid for one (1) year.

**Medical Marijuana/Zero-Tolerance Policy:** [HB 3127](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) prohibits an employer from refusing to hire, discipline, discharge, or otherwise penalize an applicant or employee on the basis of a positive test for marijuana, unless such action is taken pursuant to a written drug and testing policy adopted and enforced in accordance with the Oklahoma Standards for Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing. An applicant or employee employed in a safety-sensitive position shall be subject to zero-tolerance drug and alcohol standards. This requirement shall apply regardless of any employer policy permitting impairment-based testing or alternative standards for positions not designated as safety-sensitive. The bill modifies "safety-sensitive position". The bill does not require an employer to permit or accommodate the use, possession, sale, transfer, or being under the influence while performing job duties.

**Food Trucks:** [HB 4121](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) requires all mobile food preparation vehicles to work with state and local fire and health safety requirements as a condition of licensure and operation. The bill removes the existing liquefied petroleum gas language in the statute.

**Senate Retirement & Government Resources  
Committee  
10:30 a.m., Room 4s.9**

**Retirement Systems/COLAS:** [SB 172](#) by Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Max Wolfley (R-OKC) authorizes Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System, Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, and the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System boards to approve a two percent (2%) COLA when each respective System's funding ratio exceeds eighty percent (80%), provided the COLA does not cause the System to fall below the eighty percent (80%) funding ratio. In subsequent years the Boards may grant two percent (2%) COLAs if the funded ratio has increased five percent (5%) since the last COLA.

**House General Government Committee  
1:30 p.m., Room 4s.5**

**Public Competitive Bidding Act:** [HB 4276](#) by Rep. Nicole Miller (R-Edmond) prohibits a state agency, political subdivision, county, school district, public trust or other public entity subject to the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974 from issuing, publishing or releasing any solicitation for bids, request for proposals, construction manager selection documents or other competitive bidding instruments for any public improvement or public construction contract unless and until funds sufficient to complete the contemplated work have been formally approved, appropriated, and certified as available for expenditure. The bill requires the public entity to obtain a written certification of funds from the officer or authority responsible for encumbering or certifying the funds. The written certification shall be retained by the office of the project file and incorporated by reference into the

bidding documents. Any solicitation without prior funding approval shall be void and bids or proposals shall be invalid and may not be opened, considered, or awarded. If the estimated cost increases after issuance of bidding documents, the bidding process shall be suspended until additional funds appropriated are certified. This applies to all public improvement projects subject to the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974 unless exempted by law.

**House Judiciary - Criminal Committee  
3:00 p.m., Room 4s.5**

**Law Enforcement/Loitering/Youth Events:** [HB 3040](#) by Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) broadens the designated safety zone for individuals required to register as sex offenders. The restriction on loitering within five hundred (500) feet now applies not only to schools and similar areas, but also to any facility, business or location primarily serving or providing services to minors including, but not limited to, skating rinks, youth recreation centers, public swimming pools, arcades, amusement parks, or water parks.

**Law Enforcement/Riots:** [HB 3581](#) by Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) provides that the commission of assault and battery in the course of a riot is to be a Class B3 felony punishable by a term of no less than two (2) years nor more than ten (10) years imprisonment. Aggravated assault and battery in the course of a riot is to be a Class B1 felony punishable by a term of not less than two (2) years nor more than twenty (20) years imprisonment. If such person willfully damages, destroys or vandalizes any structure, building or office space owned or leased by a municipal, county, state or federal governmental authority in the course of the riot is to be a Class B3 felony punishable by not less than two (2) years nor more than ten (10) years in prison. The wearing of a mask, hood, overing, or disguise for the purpose of concealing identity in the course of a riot is to be a Class D3 felony punishable by up to two (2) years in prison, a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) or both fine and imprisonment. The punishment for the obstruction of a public street or highway is to be a Class D3 felony punishable by up to two (2) years

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in prison, a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or both fine and imprisonment. The bill adds felony offenses where the person has been charged with participating in a riot as an offense for which bail may be denied. The bill modifies the list of instances in which the state or political subdivision is not liable for a loss or claim that results from a riot unless the loss or claim results from instances where the state or political subdivision was aware of the dangerous condition and failed to act.

**Harassment of Public Officials:** [HB 3678](#) by Rep. Melissa Provenzano (D-Tulsa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) expands the protection of public officials to include any person elected or appointed to a municipal office, authority, board or commission, or public-school board member that use of electronic communication devices to threaten, intimidate or harass them.

**House Utilities Committee**  
**3:00 p.m., Room 206**

**Electric Utilities/Large Load Customers:** [HB 3392](#) by Rep. Amanda Clinton (D-Tulsa) requires the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to perform a comprehensive study examining the current and projected impacts of large load customers. The bill defines "large load customers," as entities with high electric demand, such as data centers, AI operations, and advanced manufacturing facilities. The study will explore several key areas: electric generation capacity, transmission, and distribution infrastructure; system reliability, resiliency and the adequacy of current utility planning; electricity rates and cost allocation are influenced and whether large load customers create cost burdens for other ratepayers; the need and cost assignment for infrastructure investments due to these large customers; any other factors the Commission deems necessary to protect public interest.

The study must also evaluate if the costs associated with serving these large load customers are allocated fairly according to cost causation principles and ensure that rate structures do not inadvertently shift costs to other consumer groups. The final report of this study is due by December 1,

2027, to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**Data Centers/Public Subsidies:** [HB 3724](#) by Rep. Jim Shaw (R-Chandler) defines terms regarding the applicability to high-demand facilities with certain electricity requirements. A county, municipality or other political subdivision may, by ordinance or resolution, prohibit the construction, siting, expansion or operation of high-demand facilities within its jurisdiction. Such authority shall not be preempted by state law and shall apply regardless of zoning classification unless otherwise expressly authorized by the political subdivision. The bill prohibits any taxpayer funded subsidies for these facilities, including tax credits or public infrastructure investments unless fully reimbursed. High-demand facilities must bear all the costs of necessary electric infrastructure without transferring expenses to other ratepayers. They are also subject to specific water conditions. Construction or operation by foreign principals or on agricultural land is prohibited. The bill requires all high-demand facilities to be fully compliant with all applicable local noise ordinances, including operational, construction, and emergency operations without exception or variance unless expressly granted by the local governing authority.

The bill grants the citizens the right to initiate referendum petitions against these facilities. The bill spells out the procedure for petitions. Successful petitions can lead to binding the municipality or county and upon any company proposing, constructing or operating a project. No such company shall proceed with, resume, or continue development inconsistent with the result approved by the voters.

**Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

**House Energy**  
**10:30 a.m., Room 206**

**DEQ/Aluminum:** [HB 2976](#) by Rep. Emily Gise (R-OKC) directs DEQ to promulgate rules that establish the numeric water quality criteria for aluminum by December 1, 2027.

**Rural Water Districts:** [HB 4316](#) by Gerrid Kendrix (R-Altus) removes the limitations prohibiting the organizing of a rural water district.

**Water/Groundwater Measurement Programs:** [HB 4459](#) by Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) authorizes any groundwater irrigation district or a conservation district participating in a cost-share program to develop a groundwater measurement program that provides properly maintained metering devices to allow members to utilize such devices to calibrate wells and irrigation systems to ensure system efficiency. A five-year flex allocation permit holder is allowed to exceed the determined annual allocation in any year; provided that the applicant shall adhere to the cumulative annually determined allocation of the basin or subbasin over the five-year period. The permit holder shall not exceed permitted allocation by over two hundred percent (200%). Any permit holder that exceeds the two hundred percent (200%) limitation in anyone (1) year or exceeds the five-year allocation is subject to penalty.

**House County & Municipal Government  
Committee  
3:00 p.m., Room 206**

**Competitive Bidding:** [HB 3417](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) clarifies that council requirements for competitive bidding shall be in addition to the provisions of the Public Competitive Bidding Act. The bill also recodifies 11 O.S. 2021, Section 17-115 as Section 141 of Title 61.

**Public Competitive Bidding Act:** [HB 3418](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) establishes procedures for public construction contracts between Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and less than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be let and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder by receipt of written bids or awarded on the basis of competitive quotes to the lowest responsible qualified contractor. The bill removes language for industrial and cultural trust contracts from the Public Competitive Bidding Act. Specifications require electronic bid processes to be auditable via live streams, thereby negating the need for a public opening. The bill establishes felony charges for the misuse of insider information regarding bid proposals and terms. Public

disclosures of ownership interest in bidding companies are encouraged by requiring full disclosure of beneficial ownership to avoid circumventing rules through intermediary companies. The bill sets public agency procedures for procurement of goods and services above Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), with detailed bid competitive processes and enforcement of sole-source and sole-brand bidding procedures. School districts are mandated to comply with these new provisions in their financial management and procurement. Contracts may not be altered to avoid stipulated bidding processes as specified; breaches of these terms may lead to misdemeanors or felonies based on the nature of the offense against the act.

**Municipal Audits:** [HB 3463](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) requires submission of annual financial statement audits in place of biennial audits or an agreed-upon procedures engagement for municipalities with a population of less than two thousand five hundred (2,500). The bill reduces the time that copies of the audit or agreed-upon-procedures engagement shall be filed with the State Auditor & Inspector from nine (9) months to six (6) months.

The Legislature finds as a result of Enrolled House Bill No. 2362 of the 2nd Session of the 59th Oklahoma Legislature, effective November 1, 2024, the Municipal Audit Reform Act of 2022 was not repealed. Any monies still withheld by the Oklahoma Tax Commission for the 2022 fiscal year audits shall be released to the counties; any monies still withheld for the 2023 fiscal year audits by the OTC for the Special Investigative Unit Auditing Revolving Fund shall be released to the Office of the State Auditor and Inspector for purposes consistent with law.

OTC shall release all funds withheld for failure to file the 2024 audit required under Section 17-105 of 25 Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, after the close of the 2026 fiscal year to the Office of the State Auditor and Inspector for purposes consistent with law.

**Water/State Geographic Information Council:** [HB 3619](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) establishes a

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workgroup to develop standards that define the process of mapping authoritative jurisdictional county boundaries. The bill also directs the Office of Geographic Information in the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to conduct leaf-off aerial imagery biennially annually subject to the availability of funds; and using the results to update the current authoritative jurisdictional county boundary data layer using standards approved by the State Geographic Information Council. The Office shall present this updated data layer to the Council for recertification of an authoritative jurisdictional county boundary layer for use by the state and its political subdivision annually.

**Oklahoma Safe Neighborhoods Act:** [HB 3985](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) creates the Oklahoma Safe Neighborhoods Act. The bill defines "affected government", "property owner", "fair market value", and "just compensation". The bill authorizes a property owner or triple net leaseholder located in a municipality with a population in excess of one hundred thirty thousand (130,000), to submit a claim for compensation if an affected government follows a policy, pattern, or practice of declining to enforce existing laws, ordinances or other legislation prohibiting illegal public camping, obstructing public thoroughfare, loitering, panhandling, and other acts that create a public nuisance, and either of the following occurs: the property owner documents the expenses to mitigate the nuisance on the property owner's real property; or the fair market value of the owner's private property is reduced. The amount of compensation shall be at the property owner's documented expenses or the reduction in fair market value. The affected government has thirty (30) days to accept or reject the property owner's claim. If they reject the claim or do not respond in thirty (30) days, the property owner may file a cause of action in the district court.

This act does not apply to decisions by city, town, or county authorities to exercise prosecutorial discretion not to prosecute alleged offenders if such discretion is exercised on a case-by-case basis and the justification is published on a monthly basis; acts of executive clemency; or acts or omissions mandated by federal law.

**Pet Shops:** [HB 4335](#) by Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) authorizes a county or municipality or any agency thereof to: adopt or enforce rules, administrative regulations, codes, or ordinances relating to the operations of a retail pet shop; provided the pet shop is in compliance with the Commercial Pet Breeders and Animal Shelter Licensing Act; and regulate and inspect retail pet stores but may not ban or prohibit a retail pet shop or retail pet shop owner for selling dogs and cats within the county or municipality unless the shop or owner has received three (3) or more convictions over five (5) years for violating the Commercial Pet Breeders and Animal Shelter Licensing Act. The bill also changes the timeline for sending written notices regarding the expiration of licenses from sixty (60) to ninety (90) days.

**House A&B Public Safety Subcommittee**  
**4:30 p.m., Room 450**

**Rural Law Enforcement Coordination Act:** [HB 2993](#) by Rep. David Hardin (R-Stilwell) creates the Rural Law Enforcement Coordination Act. The bill authorizes the Office of Homeland Security to administer a rural law enforcement coordination program. The bill creates eleven (11) rural law enforcement coordination districts. The law enforcement coordinators shall serve as liaisons between the rural law enforcement districts they represent and any federal, state, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement coordinators shall be prohibited from exercising legal authority over the law enforcement agencies or communities within the rural law enforcement districts. To be a coordinator, they must have a minimum of ten (10) years of active law enforcement experience or current peace officer issued by CLEET with experience in law enforcement, law enforcement administration, or grant management.

**ADVOCATING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY**

This year, several bills have been filed that will have a negative impact on our members, which means we need YOU more than ever. Here are a few tips to help you help us.

**Stay vigilant, stay informed.** Let OML be your clearing house for legislative information and news.

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OML sends out many GRIP Alerts to our members to let you know when a pressing issue needs your attention. Pay attention to these emails, as we send them for your benefit. You can also read any version of any bill on the Legislature's website at [oklegislature.gov](http://oklegislature.gov).

**Be active.** If you can't be at the Capitol, call, text, and email your legislators. They want to hear from you!

**Act swiftly.** Often times, bills heard in committee or on the floor can come and go very quickly. This means that you have a small window to communicate with your legislators. Same day action is paramount.

**Send us your comments.** Is a particular issue or bill important to your community? Tell us about it. We also frequently send out bills and ask for comments from you for guidance. These comments remain completely in-house, so don't be afraid to speak up. Your words are safe with us!

**Build a coalition.** Never has the phrase "strength in numbers" been more relevant. Discuss these issues with community leaders and surrounding municipalities. Collaboration is invaluable in the legislative process.

**Build a relationship with your legislators.** Legislators appreciate hearing from their constituents back home. They're also usually happy to give their phone numbers and email addresses out to remain in contact with you.

**Say THANK YOU!** This one is a no brainer. Never underestimate the power of saying thank you.