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SPRING BREAK PAUSE SETS STAGE FOR BUSY LEGISLATIVE PUSH

The Oklahoma Legislature took a much needed pause this week for Spring Break, giving members time to reconnect with their families and constituents. Before heading out, both chambers remained productive, holding floor sessions on Monday and Tuesday.

In addition to legislative work, lawmakers participated in the second annual Capitol Kids Camp, welcoming their families to the Capitol. Several lobbyists joined in the fun as well – including OML’s own Brady and Mattie Zeeck – making it a great opportunity to showcase the importance of public service to the next generation.

OML also saw continued progress on one of its priorities, with [HB 4303](#) by Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) increases the timeline for when an ordinance is published from fifteen (15) days to thirty (30) days.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 78 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Looking ahead, we anticipate a busy and potentially late-night schedule next week as legislators work to meet the upcoming deadline on Thursday, March 26th.



BILLS ON THE MOVE:

Open Records/Email Distribution Systems: [HB 1409](#) by Rep. Denise Crosswhite-Hader (R-Piedmont) and Sen. Kendal Sacchieri (R-Blanchard) authorizes public bodies to require people participating in the email distribution system to biennially confirm the request to be included in the system. If the person does not confirm the request, public bodies may remove that person from the email distribution system. Nothing prohibits an individual from participating in an email distribution system from which that individual was previously removed.

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

Food Truck/Fire Suppression: [HB 3369](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrant (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) modifies the mandate for automatic fire extinguishing systems in food trucks, which shall be optional, if the mobile food preparation vehicle is equipped with at least two (2) portable fire extinguishers meeting NFPA 10 standards and all employees receive annual fire safety training.

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

2030 Census Complete Count: [HB 3620](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) creates the sixteen (16) member 2030 Census Complete Count Committee, with six (6) members representing state and local governments reflecting the geographic diversity of the state. The Committee is charged with developing and implementing a census outreach, promotion, recruiting and enumeration assistance plan of action designed to assure a full count of the population of Oklahoma for the 2030 Decennial Census. The Committee appointments shall be official by March 1, 2027. The Committee shall submit a final report of its activities to the Governor, Speaker, and President Pro Tempore no later than June 1, 2030.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 81 to 9. The bill moves to the Senate.

Oklahoma State Data Center: [HB 3621](#) by Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) and Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) creates the Oklahoma State Data Center to serve as the primary center for applied population research, the official contact with the United States Census Bureau, and the originator and official conductor of all special censuses for the State of Oklahoma. Some of the responsibilities of the State Data Center is to collaborate with state, local, and tribal stakeholders to review and modify select statistical boundaries under the Census Bureau Participant Statistical Areas Program; and establish an affiliate network of state, local, tribal, nonprofit, and business leaders to share and promote data products, releases, events, training, and other Census Bureau resources.

The bill passed the House on Monday by a [vote](#) of 83 to 7. The bill moves to the Senate.

Retirement/DROP Plan/Children: [HB 3721](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) allows established children of a deceased participant who was not participating in the DROP of Firefighters Pension and Retirement System, Police Pension and Retirement System and Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to participate in the respective Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 77 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate.

Cybersecurity/Liability: [HB 4132](#) by Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) provides liability protections for counties and municipalities resulting from a data breach or cybersecurity incident, if at the time of the breach, the county or municipality had adopted and reasonably conformed its practices to one or more of the following frameworks: NIST; CIS; or ISO/IEC 27000 series of information security standards. To qualify for a safe harbor, a county or municipality shall: complete an annual self-certification by the information technology officer affirming conformity to the selected framework; maintain documentation and records demonstrating implementation of

cybersecurity practices; and obtain an independent review by a qualified external assessor for not less than three (3) years. The reports are confidential under the Open Records Act. A county or municipality may voluntarily submit summary information of self-certification to the State Auditor and Inspector for benchmarking purposes.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 77 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofits/Contractors & Subcontractors: [SB 44](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) creates a new sales tax exemption for the sales of tangible personal property or services to nonprofit entities as well as to any contractor with whom the exempt entity has entered into a contract necessary for carrying out such contract and sales to any subcontractor to the contract. Any contractor or subcontractor making purchases necessary for carrying out the contract may present a copy of the exemption letter or card issued to the exempt entity by OTC and documentation indicating the contractual relationship between the contractor and the entity to the vendor and the vendor shall retain such documentation as certification that the purchase is exempt.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 36 to 8. The bill moves to the House.

Court Costs & Fees: [SB 1450](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Brian Hill (R-Mustang) on request by or on behalf of a party, each court is required to waive outstanding fees, fines, and court costs for any person who has made installment payments on such debts on a timely basis for forty-eight (48) months in the previous sixty (60) month period, including any payments made prior to the effective date of this act. To be eligible for the waiver, the person shall have complied with all probation or supervision requirements as ordered by the court. Waivers under this section shall only be effective upon the entry of a court order. Payments are considered timely if such payments are made within thirty (30) days of the due date. The bill authorizes courts to grant waivers to defendants if they find such defendants have substantially complied with certain requirements. On or after the

effective date of this act, upon request by or on behalf of a party, the court shall waive all outstanding district or municipal court fines, costs, fees, and assessments in a criminal case for any person who meets the requirements of Section 983a of this title. Waiver under this subsection shall only be effective upon the entry of a court order.

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

Local Development & Enterprise Zone Incentive Leverage Act: [SB 1826](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) eliminates the sunset date provisions.

The bill passed the Senate on Monday by a [vote](#) of 32 to 13. The bill moves to the House.

Law Enforcement/Fraudulent Conveyance: [SB 2072](#) by Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) prohibits a fee from being charged by the county clerk or court clerk for the filing of an order to quiet title to restore title to the rightful property owner due to fraudulent conveyance. Upon filing the county clerk shall deliver a copy of the notice to the district attorney and the local law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction where the property is located.

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