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HAPPY EASTER

Wishing you and your cities a joyful and peaceful Easter! May the day bring fresh beginnings, a little sunshine, and time to enjoy with those who matter most.

Hope it's filled with smiles, good company, and maybe a little chocolate too!

NO JOKE: GOVERNOR, LEGISLATURE REACH BUDGET AGREEMENT

It wasn't an April Fools' joke, the Governor and the Legislature announced a budget agreement on Wednesday. The \$12.78 billion state budget for fiscal year 2027 is an increase of 1.27% over current fiscal year spending. This is the earliest that a budget agreement has been reached in recent memory. The House Appropriations Chairman announced that Members should expect Joint Appropriations and Budget Committee meetings on Monday afternoon, so we anticipate they will move quickly to get their work done and adjourn.

Some highlights of the budget agreement are:

- Provides for state agency budgets to remain mostly flat;
- Raise teacher pay by \$2,000 (\$85 million) and dedicate nearly \$80 million to literacy initiatives, reading tutors and math tutors;
- A 3 or 6 percent increase in COLA's in seven state pension system payments for retired public employees, including teachers, firefighters, law enforcement personnel and state employees based on length of service.
- Create a new "sovereign wealth fund" governed by the Invest in Oklahoma Board. The new fund would receive \$200 million from the Revenue Stabilization Fund to pursue high-dividend investments to create a new revenue stream for annual appropriations.
- \$35 million for a new revolving water loan program through the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;
- \$10 million for water projects through Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grants tied to the other OWRB program;

- \$2 million to OWRB for rural water district consolidations;
- \$33 million for general REAP grants;
- \$31 million for Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity (PREP) grants;
- \$3.7 million to the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to fund “critical dam repairs”;
- \$25 million through the Legacy Capital Fund to increase the cap of the Parental Choice Tax Credit from \$250 million to \$275 million;
- \$12.5 million for “DREAM” savings accounts for Oklahoma children;
- \$15 million to the Department of Commerce for the 2028 Olympic Games;
- \$12 million to the State Election Board for voting software upgrades.

The full budget breakdown can be found on the [House website](#).

THREATS TO TSET COULD HARM CITIES

Legislation advancing through the Oklahoma Legislature could significantly alter the mission and structure of the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET), with potential impacts on how municipalities receive funding.

Several measures have passed the House of Representatives and are now moving to the Senate as part of what is being referred to as a “TSET Reset.”

If your city or town relies on TSET funding – or may in the future – now is the time to engage. We encourage municipalities to contact their State Senator and share concerns about how these changes could affect local programs and funding opportunities.

[HJR 1076](#) proposes a constitutional amendment to be placed on August 25, 2026, ballot. If approved by voters, it would allow real property, stocks, and other equity investments to be deposited into the TSET Fund.

[HJR 1077](#) contains similar language to HJR 1076 but does not currently include ballot placement language. It remains a potential vehicle for future action.

[HB 4003](#) would make several significant changes:

- Establishes a fund within the State Department of Health using a portion of annual tobacco settlement payments
- Allows TSET funds to be used for OHLAP Scholarships
- Eliminates the TSET Board of Directors, shifting oversight to the Board of Investors Caps venture capital investments at 10% of the trust’s value

Additionally, the bill creates the TSET Legacy Effort Revolving Fund, administered by the State Department of Health. This fund would:

- Provide Legacy Effort Grants only to entities that received TSET funding in 2025
- Require a competitive grant process moving forward

Important: These changes will only take effect if voters approve the constitutional amendment proposed in HJR 1076 (or a similar measure).

BILLS ON THE MOVE:

Emergency Medical Services/Funding: [SB 206](#) by Sen. Tom Woods (R-Westville) and Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) declares solely for purposes of eligibility for federal funding that emergency medical services provided by an ambulance service managed by a municipality, county, ambulance service district, tribal entity or other public entity to be considered essential services.

The bill passed the House Public Health Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Health & Human Services 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 House Judiciary – Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

DEQ/Environmental Permitting Act: [SB 1246](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) requires DEQ to publish information instructing the public on how it may view documents, subscribe to updates, and receive electronic notice of public participation opportunities related to pending Tier II applications and agency decisions. Such notification must be published on the Electronic Environmental Permit Application Docket on the Department's website. Tier III applications shall include electronic notifications and publication of denials, responses to comments, and opportunities for an administrative permit hearing on the Electronic Environmental Permit Application Docket on the Department's website. The measure strikes language requiring the Department to post notice of such opportunities and hearings in a local newspaper.

The bill passed the House Energy Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the House Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee.

Firearms/Waterways: [SB 1258](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. Jim Olsen (R-Roland) allows the transportation of firearms by vessel on the waters of the state. The bill defines "vessel" as any device, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

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/Peeping Toms: [SB 1460](#) by Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) clarifies, on or after January 1, 2026, second or subsequent offenses of watching, gazing or looking upon a person in a clandestine manner, using recording equipment in a clandestine manner, and subsequent convictions for using photographic, electronic, or video equipment in a clandestine manner as B5 offenses. Persons convicted of second or subsequent B5 offenses shall be subject to a term of imprisonment not to exceed five (5) years and/or a maximum fine of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

The bill passed the House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

Law Enforcement/Cold Case Investigation: [SB 1636](#) by Sen. Carri Hicks (D-OKC) and Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) authorizes a law enforcement agency to review a case file regarding a cold case upon written application by a designated person to determine if a reinvestigation would result in probative investigative leads. The person or people employed by a law enforcement agency and performing the case file review shall not have previously investigated the cold case. The law enforcement agency shall confirm receipt of the request for a case file review in writing within thirty (30) days. Only one case can be undertaken at a time with respect to the same victim. The bill sets a six (6) month time from for the law enforcement agency to reach a conclusion if its reinvestigation is needed. If a case file review is completed and the agency concludes that a reinvestigation is not warranted, no additional review shall be taken for the same cold cases for at least five (5) years, unless new evidence is materially significant is discovered. OSBI shall promulgate rules to effectuate this act.

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

Law Enforcement/Official Investigation: [SB 1730](#) by Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) and Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) directs a law enforcement officer who receives a report or complaint that, if substantiated, would result in the defendant being required to register as a sex offender, to submit a record of the complaint or report to the OSBI within one (1) month of the report's receipt. The bill requires the record to include the name or identifying information of the accused, the nature of the alleged offense, the date, time, and location of the alleged offense, and the agency report number. The report shall be submitted regardless of whether an arrest is made. The report shall remain confidential except as authorized by law for official investigative or prosecutorial purposes.

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

GTCA/Public Trusts: [SB 1827](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Erick Harris (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.

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

NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

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

Monday, April 6, 2026

Senate Agriculture & Wildlife Committee
10:00 a.m., Room 230

Forest Fire Prevention/Burn Bans: [HB 3404](#) by Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky (R-Balko) and 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 Elections & Ethics Committee
3:00 p.m., Room 5s2

Election/Room Costs: [SB 1286](#) by Sen. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) requires any political subdivision that held an election conducted by a county election board on or after January 1, 2023, and that owns, rents, or leases a facility located in or near a precinct without a suitable polling place available to be furnished at no cost upon the written request of the secretary of the county election board.

Initiative Petition/Signatures: [SB 1581](#) by Rep. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Cody Maynard (R-Durant) increases the time allowed for gathering signatures for a petition from forty-five (45) days to ninety (90) days.

House A&B General Government Subcommittee
4:30 p.m., Room 4s5

CIB/Licensing Fees: [SB 1732](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) increases license fees relating to the Home Inspection Licensing Act. The bill eliminates the licenses for permit issuance and permit renewal from the CIB and establishes fees for plumbing, electrical, or mechanical licenses. The bill also establishes a Fifty-five Dollar (\$55.00) fee for the initial or renewal of a license for a building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, or energy code inspectors. CIB is authorized to charge a Four Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$480.00) for an initial poultry house contractor license and Three Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$320.00) for renewal poultry contractor license.

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

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

Law Enforcement/Stalking Warning Letters: [HB 1002](#) by Rep. Jacob Rosecrants (D-Norman) and Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) requires law enforcement to notify the victim of stalking of the availability to meet with a representative of a certified domestic violence program representative.

Law Enforcement/Public Safety Technology Revolving Fund: [HB 1250](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) creates the Public Safety Technology Revolving Fund for the purpose of funding grants to local law enforcement divisions to cover some of the costs associated with using technology to better interface with the public.

Law Enforcement/Oklahoma Emergency Communications Act: [HB 2710](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) Creates the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Act. The bill creates a fifteen (15) member Oklahoma Emergency Communications Authority within DPS to act as the oversight board for the regulation of state emergency communications systems. The bill establishes the powers and duties of the board. The Oklahoma Emergency Communications Revolving Fund is created to support the Authority. The Chief Information Officer is directed to seek guidance and recommendations from the Authority for all purchases related to public safety communications. The Office of Homeland Security is to ensure that all federal and state grant funding for radio and data communications meets the State Strategic Communications Plan as approved by the Oklahoma Emergency Communications Authority.

The bill repeals Title 62, Section 35.6.2 relating to Land Mobile Radio Public Safety Interoperability Cooperative.

Records Fees/Accident Response Records: [HB 3045](#) by Rep. Mark Tedford (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) adds fire departments and municipalities from imposing an accident response

fee; however, this prohibition does not apply to a volunteer fire department.

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 from individuals that use electronic communication devices to threaten, intimidate or harass them.

Emergency Management Teams: [HB 3831](#) by Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) recognizes the Oklahoma Task Force 1 (OK-TF1) as the official deployment asset team for urban search and rescue missions and for floods and disasters in Oklahoma; provided, OK-TF1 is not deployed for wildland firefighting. The bill creates the Oklahoma Task Force 1 Revolving Fund. Monies from the fund are to be used by OK-TF1 for costs incurred during in-state or out-of-state deployments and by the Oklahoma City and Tulsa task force teams for personnel, equipment, logistics, transportation, lodging, operational expenses, deployment readiness, and capability enhancements. Appropriated funds shall not be used for routine or daily fire department operations, staffing, facilities, maintenance or other expenses not related to the task force.

Outdoor Sirens/Tampering Fines: [HB 4107](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Julie McIntosh (R-Porter) 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".

House Business Committee
10:30 a.m., Room 4s5

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.

Labor Organization/Economic Development Incentives: [SB 1937](#) by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom (R-Adair) and Rep. Mark Lepak (R-Claremore) prohibits any employer from receiving economic development incentives if it voluntarily grants recognition rights for its employees solely and exclusively on the basis of signed union authorization cards if the selection of a bargaining representative may instead be conducted through a secret ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Such employers are also prohibited from disclosing employee contact information to labor organizations, signing a neutrality agreement with a labor organization, or requiring a subcontractor to engage in activities prohibited in the measure. The bill allows a person to report violations to the Attorney General. An employer found to have engaged in any activity prohibited and which has received an economic development incentive for any project, shall be required to repay all economic development incentives received over the life of the project to the administering agency of the incentive. The provisions of the bill do not apply to agreements between the state and an employer or between a county or municipality and an employer, executed prior to the effective date of this act. Employer with a collective bargaining unit where an employer, as of the effective date of this act, has entered into a collective bargaining unit with a labor organization or to which a secret ballot election has already occurred under applicable federal law.

House General Government Committee
1:30 p.m., Room 4s5

State Fire Marshal Commission: [SB 2174](#) by President Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Stan May (R-Broken Arrow) recreates the State Fire Marshal Commission changing a few of the representatives. Upon the effective date of this act, any expiration or vacancy of the term of a

currently appointed member shall be filled by the appointing authority specified in this section of law.

House Banking, Financial Services & Pensions Committee
3:00 p.m., Room 450

Credit Card Surcharges: [SB 2132](#) by Sen. Spencer Kern (R-Duncan) and Rep. Emily Gise (R-Moore) increases the surcharge limit on credit cards from two percent (2%) to three and one-half percent (3.5%).

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

House Public Health Committee
9:00 a.m., Room 206

Emergency Medical Services: [SB 1561](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Nick Archer (R-Elk City) gives the authority to the Commissioner of Health to impose disciplinary actions for violations of the Oklahoma Emergency Responders Act.

Food Trucks: [SB 1749](#) by Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) and Rep. Tim Turner (Kinta) modifies the inspecting authority for food trucks as it relates to the fire code. The bill changes to the Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board from the Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas Administration. The Board shall promulgate rules related wo such permits, including inspection requirements.

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

OHCA/Municipal Liens: [SB 1198](#) by Sen. Mark Mann (D-OKC) and Rep. Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) directs the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) to file a release of the liens on properties on which OHCA has liens upon request of a municipality if the property is owned by such municipality and is to be transferred to a not-for-profit entity for a qualified project or for another public purpose deemed suitable by the municipality. "Nuisance property" is defined as property that is deemed unmarketable or unusable due to the existence of liens in excess of the property's fair market value as shown by the county

assessor's office of due to environmental problems or conditions that exist on the property that would cost more to remedy than the fair market value of the property as shown by the county assessor's office, or property in which abatement liens have been placed upon the property by a municipality in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the property's fair market value as shown by the county assessor's office.

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.

County Home Rule Charter: [SB 1552](#) by Minority Leader Julia Kirt (D-OKC) and Rep. Chris Kannady (R-OKC) authorizes a county with a population of eight hundred twenty-five thousand (825,000) which contains a municipality with a population of five hundred thousand (500,000) to adopt or amend a County Home Rule Charter.

Municipal Enforcement & Penalties: [SB 1775](#) by Sen. Roland Pedersen (R-Burlington) and Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Valliant) clarifies that penalties for certain municipal ordinances may be equal to penalties in state statute. If any fine or deferral fee in lieu of a fine, as stated in a municipal ordinance, or any other fine or fee schedule adopted by a municipality, exceeds the maximum amount authorized by this section or other applicable statutes for the same offense, the amount is void and enforceable to the extent of the excess amount and shall be deemed reformed and reduced by operation of law to the maximum lawful amount.

Restrictive Covenants/County Clerk: [SB 2139](#) by Sen. Carri Hicks (D-OKC) and Rep. Erick Harris (R-Edmond) upon the adoption and recording of an ordinance amending a recorded plat to redact, remove, or strike the discriminatory language from the existing plat, the municipality shall provide the county clerk an Affidavit Regarding Correction of Plats, containing the title of the plat to be recorded, a reference to the book and page number, the section, township, and range of the plat, recitation of the discriminatory language to be redacted, removed, or stricken from the plat, and a copy of the

existing plat identifying the discriminatory language to be redacted, removed, or stricken. Upon receipt of an Affidavit Regarding Correction of Plats, on the electronic version of the plat on the county clerks website or the original plat if no electronic version of the plat is maintained on the county clerks website, the county clerk shall enter a note stating the discriminatory language was redacted, removed, or stricken, providing the book and page number where the Affidavit Regarding Correction of Plats is located in the county clerk's office.

Municipal Liens/Notification: [SB 2154](#) by Sen. Aaron Reinhardt (R-Jenks) and Rep. Jason Blair (R-Moore) requires the municipal clerk to forward a copy of this statement by mail to any lienholder of record and shall obtain a receipt of mailing from the postal service, with a receipt that indicates the date of mailing and the name and address of the mailee. Lienholder of record is defined to mean a person holding a lien on a property subject to municipal action as recorded on a deed or title in county of records.