

10-26

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**BUILD ACT IMPROVEMENTS MADE**

There has been significant discussion surrounding [SB 2060](#) by Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa), commonly referred to as the BUILD Act. This measure is similar in concept to State Question 833, which voters rejected two years ago. At its core, the proposal functions as a smaller-scale version of a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district, allowing a defined area to capture property tax revenue for infrastructure improvements over a limited period of time.

SB 2060 has been strongly embraced by Governor Stitt as one of his final policy priorities before leaving office. In fact, its passage became a condition during budget negotiations with the Legislature, and both the House and Senate have agreed to move the measure forward.

OML worked closely with the Governor's office, legislative leadership, and the bill's author to propose meaningful amendments. OML has helped shape a version of the bill that can serve as a viable financial tool for municipalities.

Key improvements include:

- Any proposed district must receive approval from the municipal governing body before it can be created.
- A comprehensive "catch-all" provision ensures that nothing within the improvement plan interferes with a city or county's authority over infrastructure, comprehensive planning, zoning, or other local requirements. These protections are reinforced through contractual agreements between the governing body and the applicant of the proposed Master Development District.

Another important improvement in the bill is the provision directing the State Treasurer to develop the master development plan template. OML views this as a positive step that will help ensure consistency, transparency, and a clear framework for how these districts are structured and evaluated. OML has a strong working relationship with State Treasurer Todd Russ, who brings valuable perspective as a former city council member. His understanding of municipal governance and infrastructure needs gives added confidence that the template will be developed with appropriate consideration for local priorities and practical implementation at the city level. Treasurer Russ has agreed to work with OML in crafting this language to ensure municipal interests are properly reflected.

### **GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL HEADS TO GOVERNOR**

The House passed the General Appropriations bill [SB 1177](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 76-18. Governor Kevin Stitt has five days, excluding Sunday to sign, veto, or allow it to become law absent his signature.

Typically, passage of the budget happens at the end of May and signals the end of Session. There is continued conversation around the Capitol that the Legislature will finish their work and adjourn early, but nothing concrete has been determined.

### **MOMENTUM BUILDS AS OML PRIORITIES ADVANCE**

OML priorities continue to advance through the legislative process, gaining important momentum. Three of our bills have successfully passed their respective committees, bringing them one step closer to becoming law. With the possibility of a shortened legislative session, OML is encouraged to see this continued progress on key priorities.

**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 passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of

5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**OML Priority/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.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

**OML Priority/Publication of Ordinance:** [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 Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

### **RESOLUTION MOVES TO SECRETARY OF STATE**

**Ad Valorem/Reimbursement:** [HJR 1087](#) by Speaker Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) and President Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) is a measure to amend Section 68 of Article 10 in the Oklahoma Constitution. The resolution requires the Legislature to enact laws establishing the levels and methodologies of reimbursement of common schools, county governments, cities and towns, emergency medical service districts, vocation-technical schools, junior colleges, county health departments and libraries for revenues lost to the manufacturing exemption for ad valorem. The measure also provides that the level of reimbursement be included in the assessed valuation of taxable property when computing the limit on indebtedness of political subdivisions.

A special election is hereby ordered to be held throughout the State of Oklahoma on the date of August 25, 2026, at which time the proposed

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amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, shall be submitted to the people of Oklahoma for their approval or rejection.

The joint resolution passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 38 to 7.

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

**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.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

**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.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**OLERS/School Resource Officers:** [HB 2206](#) by Rep. Mike Lay (R-Tulsa) and Sen. Darrell Weaver (R-Moore) expands membership in OLERS by adding active CLEET-certified school resource officers employed by public schools on or after July 1, 2026. Such employees shall not make contribution to any plan offered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma. The public school district employing such employees shall be a participating employer for all such employees participating in OLERS.

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

**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.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Medical Marijuana/Zero-Tolerance Policy:** [HB 3127](#) by Rep. Kevin West (R-Moore) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) 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, as defined in subsection K of this section shall be subject to a zero-tolerance drug and alcohol standard. This requirement shall apply regardless of any employer policy permitting impairment-based testing or alternative standards for positions not designated as safety-sensitive. Nothing shall limit an employer's ability to implement and enforce written drug and alcohol testing policies regarding drug testing and impairment, including policies that prohibit the use of marijuana in a workplace or while performing job

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duties. 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.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill moves to the full Senate.

**Police Pension & Retirement System/Mental Health:** [HB 3265](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) for purposes of determining disability in the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System the bill defines "mental health specialist" to mean a psychiatrist licensed by the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, a psychologist licensed by the Oklahoma State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, or a Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Marital and Family Therapist, or Licensed Behavioral Practitioner licensed by the Oklahoma Board of Health Licensure.

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

**Delinquent Court Fines:** [HB 3321](#) by Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) directs the Cost Administration Implementation Committee to develop and implement a plan for gathering the following data per county and compiling the data in a report due annually: 1) how many individuals were booked solely on cost arrest warrants and the length of time the individuals were detained or held; 2) how many third-party vendors each county is using for the court cost compliance program; 3) how much money was collected using the court cost compliance program per county; 4) how much money was collected per individual per county following the execution of a cost arrest warrant; and 5) any other information that the Cost Administration Implementation Committee believes would be helpful for the Legislature to understand government spending on collecting court financial obligation.

The Committee shall submit to the AG a preliminary report with its plan and preliminary data no later than December 31, 2026, with annual reports being due on November 15 every year thereafter. The preliminary report shall include information about any additional resources necessary to collect the information set forth in subsection N of this section. State agencies, district courts, and counties shall cooperate with the Cost Administration Implementation Committee to collect the above-referenced information; provided, however, no entity shall be required to expend funds to collect the required information if the information is not already collected.

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

**Oklahoma Biosolids Land Application Research Pilot Program Act:** [HB 3403](#) by Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky (R-Balko) and Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) 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. Municipalities must require the use of microbial biotechnology approved by the DEQ to reduce the volume of biosolids at a wastewater treatment plant. Additionally, such municipalities shall adopt technology approved by the DEQ to reduce biosolid odor and dry solid matter at a wastewater treatment plant. Renewal of permits for land application shall be left to the

discretion of the DEQ for the purpose of aiding Municipalities with the reduction of land application of biosolids. 2. Not later than December 1, 2027, all persons or entities permitted to land apply biosolids shall reduce the amount of such material land applied by at least twenty-five percent (25%). 3. Not later than December 1, 2028, all persons or entities permitted to land apply biosolids shall reduce the amount of such material land applied by at least fifty percent (50%). 4. Not later than December 1, 2029, any person or entity permitted to land apply biosolids shall submit a plan for full cessation of such actions to the DEQ. The plan shall be compiled and submitted in the form and manner prescribed by the DEQ.

The amended bill passed the Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 2. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**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).

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

**Environment/Biosolids:** [HB 3411](#) by Rep. John George (R-Newalla) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) directs DEQ to conduct testing of biosolids or by a laboratory appropriately accredited to perform such an analysis in order to determine PFAS amounts prior to land application. Farmers and ranchers whose lands are being applied with biosolids must be given a written

notification describing the potential hazards related to biosolids. Additionally, biosolids must not be applied in the same place more than once a year. DEQ must propose rules and implement the requirements of this measure no later than January 1, 2028.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the Senate Energy Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 2. The enacting clause was also stricken. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Competitive Bidding/Reverse Auction:** [HB 3417](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Jerry Alvord (R-Wilson) allows political subdivisions or any public trusts to use a reverse auction bidding procedure to obtain bids for purchases of goods or services of any type of kind. The reverse auction must be a real-time bidding process and take place at a previously scheduled time and internet location. Suppliers will submit bids anonymous to each other. The reverse auction procedure must provide for the opening and closing of the bid, the posting of all bids electronically, and updating bids on a real-time basis by the political subdivision or public trusts.

The bill also repeals 11 O.S. 2021, Sections 17-115 and 17-115.1.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 1. The bill moves to the full Senate.

**Public Competitive Bidding Act:** [HB 3418](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) 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

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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.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

**Municipal Audits:** [HB 3463](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) 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.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to Senate Appropriations.

**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, which 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 Senate Economic Development, Workforce and Tourism Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**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 Senate Economic Development, Workforce and Tourism Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

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**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. The 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.

The bill passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**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 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 by the city, town or county; acts of executive clemency; or acts or omissions mandated by federal law.

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

**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".

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

**Sales Tax Exemption/Nonprofits/Contractors & Subcontractors:** [SB 44](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) creates a new a 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.

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The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

**Firearms/Hotels:** [SB 372](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. Jay Steagall (R-Yukon) allows a person to carry concealed or unconcealed firearms in any state-owned hotel, cabin or lodge.

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.

**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.

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

**Law Enforcement/Copper Theft:** [SB 1232](#) by Sen. Bill Coleman (R-Ponca City) and Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Valliant) creates a felony offense for any person who enters any premises, easement, or right-of-way with intent to steal or remove without consent of the owner or with the intent to aid or assist in stealing or removing with the consent of the owner, any copper wire, copper cable, or copper or

any item that is known or reasonably should be known as ordinarily used by, belonging to, or identified with markings indicating ownership by a telephone, telegraph, internet, broadcast, or wireless communication company that results in damages equal to or exceeding One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00). Such person shall be subject to a fine of up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) and/or a term of imprisonment equal to penalty provisions for Class C2 felony offenses.

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.

**Election/Room Costs:** [SB 1286](#) by Se. Christi Gillespie (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mike Osbun (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.

The bill passed the House Elections & Ethics Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 1. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**Law Enforcement/9-8-8 Lifeline Revolving Fund:** [SB 1369](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) and Rep. Kevin Norwood (R-Owasso) creates a revolving fund for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to be designated the 9-8-8 Lifeline Revolving Fund for the purposes of sustaining and expanding operations of a 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline in this state.

The bill passed the House A&B Human Services Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 0. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

**Funding/Olympics:** [SB 1378](#) by Sen. Kristen Thompson (R-Edmond) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) creates the Olympics in Oklahoma Revolving Fund. The Fund is used for the purpose of hosting the 2028 Olympic Games. The bill provides that at least five percent (5%) of all funds

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dispensed from the Fund shall be awarded to contracts fulfilled by Oklahoma based businesses, subject to the approval of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

**Sales Tax Exemption/Aerospace Taxes:** [SB 1400](#) by Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Daniel Pae (R-Lawton) combines existing exemptions into a unified framework based on investment and employment thresholds. provides in order to qualify for the exemption the cost of the items purchased by the qualified aircraft maintenance or manufacturing facilities shall equal or exceed the sum of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00). "Qualified facilities" defined as those with a construction cost over Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) and employing at least two hundred fifty (250) new full-time employees. The bill details what constitutes a qualified maintenance facility and extends the exemption to aircraft engines, frame repairs, and other technical modifications.

The bill passed the House A&B Finance Subcommittee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0. The bill moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

**Drones/Critical Infrastructure:** [SB 1441](#) by Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) and Rep. Josh West (R-Grove) imposes criminal liability for any person who violates by flying a drone over or near critical infrastructure.

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.

**Court Costs & Fees:** [SB 1450](#) by Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) and Rep. Brian Hill (R-Yukon) 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 House Judiciary - Criminal Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the House Judiciary & Public Safety Oversight Committee.

**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.

The bill passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 3 to 2. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**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.

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

**Initiative Petition/Signatures:** [SB 1581](#) by Rep. David Bullard (R-Durant) and Rep. Cody Maynard (R-Durant) increases the time allowed for gathering

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signatures for a petition from forty-five (45) days to ninety (90) days.

The bill passed the House Elections & Ethics Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 2. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**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.

The bill passed the House A&B General Government Subcommittee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 4 to 1. The bill moves to the House A&B Committee.

**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.

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

**Municipal 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.

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

**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 House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8-0. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

**Law Enforcement/Impersonating an Officer:** [SB 1936](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) makes it a Class DI offense, on or after January 1, 2026, to falsely hold oneself out as law enforcement personnel. A person found guilty of such a crime shall be subject to a maximum fine of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) as well as a term of imprisonment.

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.

**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

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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.

The bill passed the House Business Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 5 to 2. The bill moves to the House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee.

**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.

The bill passed the House County & Municipal Government Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of

5 to 0. The bill moves to the House Government Oversight Committee.

**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.

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

**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.

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

### NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

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

**Monday, April 13, 2026**

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

**Playgrounds/Outdoor Advertising:** [HB 2053](#) by Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) adds "playground" to places where outdoor signs are not to be located. "Playground" is defined as an outdoor space that contains permanently affixed playground

equipment where the primary use is for children to play, excluding those spaces where the equipment is an accessory use to a commercial enterprise. Playground equipment located on privately owned residential properties should also not be considered. The bill also defines “planned unit development” (PUD), including any variation of such term, shall have the same meaning as that provided in Section 43-110 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes; provided, however, an off-premises sign shall not be considered a part of the development in a PUD, a PUD zoning action shall only be recognized as a commercial or industrial area for permitting purposes as provided for by law, and a PUD shall not be used to circumvent any local, state, or federal restrictions pertaining to off-premises signs.

**Law Enforcement/Critical Infrastructure Facilities:** [HB 4108](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) expands the scope of intruding and forbidden entry without site authorization to the operational area of an airport including runways, taxiways, ramps, apron areas, aircraft parking and storage areas, fuel storage areas, maintenance areas, and any other area of an airport used or intended to be used for landing, takeoff, or surface maneuvering of aircrafts.

**House Energy & Natural Resources Committee**  
**3:00 p.m., Room 450**

**Water Groundwater Usage/Metering/Data Centers:** [SB 259](#) by Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) and Rep. Carl Newton (R-Cherokee) requires water permit holders to remit their annual report of water use to OWRB. The bill specifies that conservation, nonuse, and usage practices resulting in less consumption of the permitted water shall not be used to diminish the permit holder's future permitted equal proportional share. Penalties and fines are created for any person willfully withholding the annual report. The bill also provides that complaints relating to unauthorized use of water shall be submitted to the Board and the local groundwater irrigation district. OWRB is directed to require all water wells requiring a permit to take and use groundwater to utilize water well flow meters or alternative measuring systems at a central point of distribution. OWRB shall promulgate rules providing for an 8-year phase-in

schedule of adopting these systems. The Board shall also modernize its data collection, investigate claims of waste, and impose fines and penalties for overuse or waste. A 5-year allocation of the maximum annual yield of the basin or subbasin may be approved for a regular permit beginning August 1, 2026. Applicants for such allocations must adhere to the cumulative maximum annual yield for the basin or subbasin over the period. The bill requires all reporting to be anonymized.

Using groundwater for cooling purposes at a data processing facility or data center through open-air evaporative cooling systems or any other cooling technology that consumes groundwater through evaporation or discharge without recirculation. Groundwater permits for such facilities shall only be issued if the applicant demonstrates that the cooling system utilizes closed-loop, dielectric immersion, or other comparably low-consumptive cooling technologies that substantially recirculate groundwater and minimize consumptive loss as determined by the Board.

The bill was [amended](#) and passed the House Energy Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0.

**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 shall 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.

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

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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. The Board shall have full discretion of all monies within the fund for enhancements, leveraging, and reserve capacities for the loan and grant programs, system evaluation and risk assessment assistance, and long-range infrastructure planning. The Board may reserve up to two percent (2%) per year from the fund for the purpose of administering the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program.

The bill passed the House Agriculture Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 0.

**OWRB/Maximum Yield:** [SB 1509](#) by Sen. Darcy Jech (R-Kingfisher) requires OWRB to set well spacing by rule pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act. The Board shall set specific spacing for each basin as part of establishing a maximum annual yield pursuant to Section 1020.6 of this title.

The bill passed the House Agriculture Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 3.

**Water/Groundwater:** [SB 1928](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) removes the meter use requirement. The bill authorizes OWRB to provide 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 flex allocation is required to submit an annual usage report of the prior year's usage from a Board-approved water measurement system; and pay the annual groundwater permit fee. A 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 one hundred fifty percent (150%). This bill does not apply to domestic wells.

The bill passed the House Agriculture Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 2.

**House Health & Human Services Oversight  
Committee**  
**3:00 p.m., Room 206**

**Medical Marijuana Operations/Public Nuisance:** [SB 640](#) by President Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) directs licensed medical marijuana businesses to remove or lawfully dispose of surface trash, debris, waste and substances by the operations from the vicinity and shall keep such premises free and clear of such. Any violation may result in the assessment of a fine in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) Any subsequent violation may result in a fine in the amount of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). The bill authorizes OMMA to promulgate rules to establish necessary enforcement measures. Within thirty (30) days after a medical marijuana commercial grower license is revoked, expired or ceases to be active shall clean up the site around it. It is a public nuisance if they fail to do so. An abandoned medical marijuana grow operation shall constitute a public nuisance.

The bill also repeals 63 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 427.26.

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

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026**

**Senate Public Safety Committee**  
**8:30 a.m., Room 230**

**Firefighters/Registered Sex Offenders:** [HB 3082](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) prohibits any fire department to employ

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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.

**Firearms/Restoration of Rights:** [HB 4125](#) by Rep. Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) and Sen. David Bullard (R-Durant) updates the restoration of gun rights for nonviolent felons if an individual has not been convicted of any other misdemeanor or felony offense for a period of five (5) years since the completion of the sentence for the last misdemeanor or felony offense and no felony or misdemeanor charges are pending shall have their rights restored to possess, carry or transport any firearm. Upon restoration of the right to possess, carry, or transport a firearm, a nonviolent felon may have the right to perform the duties of a gunsmith and any other duties that require the restoration of his or her rights.

**Law Enforcement/Bomb Squad:** [HB 4142](#) by Rep. Robert Manger (R-OKC) and Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) modifies elements of crimes related to the unlawful use of bombs or explosive devices and updates related definitions. The bill clarifies language around explosive and incendiary devices, adds conspiracy provisions, and provides a construing provision for lawful use of explosives. Any resulting change to the revenues collected by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) or change in the costs incurred by the Department of Corrections (DOC) are expected to be immaterial and/or absorbed by the agencies.