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OML PRIORITY ADVANCES AS FIRST BILL REACHES GOVERNOR'S DESK

It was a successful week for OML priorities as our first bill officially reached Governor Stitt's desk on Thursday. The Governor now has five (5) days to act.

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 on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill heads to the Governor's desk.

We are also pleased that our remaining priorities continue to move forward during this accelerated legislative session. OML remains encouraged by the progress being made as these important measures advance through the legislative process.

OML Priority/Oklahoma Common Cents Act: [HB 3075](#) by Rep. Derrick Hildebrandt (R-Catoosa) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) establishes rounding rules, unless actions by the U.S. Congress direct otherwise, from the effective date of the act until July 1, 2027, any political subdivision may round final amounts owed to the entity as follows if the payment is made in the form of 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 over or under cash payments from a fund under its control as determined by the governing body.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

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 Government Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

Improvement Districts/BUILD Act: As we discussed last week, [SB 2060](#) was heard by both the House and Senate this week after OML worked with the House and the Governor's office to amend the bill. SB 2060 by Sen. John Haste (R-Broken Arrow) and Rep. Mark Lawson (R-Sapulpa) creates the Building Utilities and Infrastructure for Long-term Development (BUILD) Act and modifies and adds several definitions to the act. The bill authorizes the creation of master development districts within municipalities and counties upon application.

The governing bodies of the applicable municipality or board of county commissioners are authorized to approve applications if:

- All of the surface owners within the proposed master development district consent in writing;
- A governing document is included, which creates an independent board of supervisors and includes certain other information;
- An improvement plan for the district is included that is conducive to the long-term development of the municipality or county; and
- Nothing in the improvement plan interferes with a city or county's ability to protect infrastructure, comprehensive planning, zoning or any other requirements the city or county imposes through contracts between the governing bodies and the applicant.

Any protest to the creation of the master development district must be filed within ten (10) business days of official approval. After approval, the governing body of the applicable municipality or county and the board of supervisors of a master development district must enter into a master development agreement.

The bill authorizes the board of supervisors to have the same rights and powers as a governing body of a municipality has over improvement districts and to have the power to levy, impose, and collect special assessments on the property within the district for the purpose of financing, operating, maintaining, repairing, or replacing district improvements. Master development districts can acquire, lease, sell, or dispose of real or tangible property. The bill establishes and clarifies what bonds can be issued to master development districts.

Improvement districts and master development districts are authorized to purchase, construct, operate, repair, improve, or extend inside and outside its boundaries any and all works, improvements, facilities, plants, equipment, and appliances necessary to accomplish the purpose of the district. This includes all works related to supplying water, waste disposal, storm water collection, irrigation, altering land elevation, and navigating waters within the district. Additionally, the governing body of an improvement district and the board of supervisors of a master development district can acquire, construct, or improve libraries. Lastly, the bill clarifies that districts cannot provide electric or natural gas services.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 54 to 40. The bill passed the Senate on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 29 to 14. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

**GOVERNOR SIGNED GA BILL AS
LEGISLATURE ADVANCES ADDITIONAL
BUDGET BILLS**

Governor Stitt signed the General Appropriations bill, [SB 1177](#), on Wednesday. This is one of the earliest times that a budget bill has been passed and signed into law. Following that action, the House and Senate moved quickly this week to pass the follow-up budget limit bills that direct how state agencies will spend those appropriated dollars along with other budget related bills. Those measures now head to the Governor's desk as well. These represent just a few of the appropriations bills

that will have an impact on municipalities across the state.

Appropriations/Ethics Commission: [HB 4037](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) increases the cap amount from One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00). Fees collected each fiscal year in excess of the Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) shall be placed to the credit of the Ethics Commission Online Filing Revolving Fund.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 91 to 0. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 0. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriation/ODOT: [HB 4038](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) appropriates Five Million Dollars to ODOT, under the direction of the Executive Director, to be dedicated to funding projects on the 8-Year Construction Work Plan. The bill also appropriates Two Hundred Sixty-six Thousand Dollars (\$266,000.00) to ODOT to implement the provisions of Enrolled [HB 2979](#) creating the Tayln Bain Act that creates school zones on state highways at the requests of local jurisdictions.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 92 to 0. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 28 to 17. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Local Law Enforcement Grants: [HB 4041](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) appropriates \$2.250 million to the Office of the Attorney General for FY 2027. Of that amount, \$2 million will fund a two-year pilot program supporting victims of sexual and labor trafficking, while the remaining \$250,000 will be transferred to the Public Safety Technology Revolving Fund created by Enrolled [HB 1250](#).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 96 to 0. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 44-0. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Emergency Management: [HB 4043](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) appropriates One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management to be transferred to the Oklahoma Task Force 1 Revolving Fund created by the Enrolled [HB 3831](#).

The bill passed House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 93 to 3. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 44 to 0. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Military Department: [HB 4045](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) creates within the Oklahoma Military Department the "Military Readiness, Innovation, Education, and Aviation Revolving Fund" for authorized uses to include equipment and technology investments that enhance military simulation training, improvements to accessibility and transportation routes serving military facilities, support for common education facilities located on military bases, and initiatives that strengthen local industries engaged in military base and infrastructure expansion.

In any fiscal year where funds are expended, the Oklahoma Military Department must file a report within forty-five (45) days to the Governor, Speaker, President Pro Tempore, the A&B Chair of the House and the Appropriations Chair of the Senate, stating how the funds were used.

The bill repeals 44 O.S. Supp. 2026, Section 301A that created the BIND Schools Revolving Program and its revolving fund.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 89 to 3. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 37 to 7. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Military Department: [HB 4046](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) directs funding from multiple sources to the Military Readiness, Innovation, Education, and Aviation Revolving Fund. The bill reallocates Twenty-one Million Dollars (\$21,000,000.00) in previously appropriated funds for the Oklahoma Military Department to the fund for the following

projects: Six Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,200,000.00) to construct or improve common education facilities on a military base in Southwest Oklahoma; Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) to construct or improve common education facilities on a military base in Northwest Oklahoma; and Nine Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,800,000.00) to construct or improve cargo access, including rail access, at a military facility in Southeast Oklahoma.

The bill also appropriates to the Military Readiness, Innovation, Education, and Aviation Revolving Fund from the Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund to fund the following projects: Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) to construct or improve cargo access to a military facility in Southeast Oklahoma; and Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) to construct a new building attached to an innovation center dedicated to defense-related research and education. Such funds shall not be released until additional funding sources for the project are obtained and a tenant or tenants are secured. The bill also transfers the balance of the BIND Schools Revolving Fund to the Military Readiness, Innovation, Education, and Aviation Revolving Fund created in Enrolled HB 4045.

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 91 to 0. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 7. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Dept. of Commerce: [HB 4047](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) authorizes appropriations from the Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for the following purposes: Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for the purpose of providing resources to an economic development organization with an office located in a town with a population of thirty-five thousand (35,000) people or less to construct and operate a transitional living facility serving individuals aging out of foster care or those with low income; Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for facility upgrades at a state fair location, (Oklahoma State Fairgrounds) including improvements to fairground arena connectors,

electrical infrastructure, and facilities used for livestock events; and One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000.00) to implement energy-efficiency upgrades at a university located in Western Oklahoma with a student population of less than one thousand one hundred (1,100) students (University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 81 to 11. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 30 to 16. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/ODOT: [HB 4048](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) appropriates Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) from the Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to improve transportation infrastructure at the following locations: East of State Highway 99 and north of State Highway 62 (northeast Lincoln County); South of U.S. Highway 412 and west of State Highway 385 (near Felt); and North of the Northwest Expressway/State Highway 3 and west of State Highway 74 (near Piedmont).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) 93 to 0. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 36 to 10. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/OPERS: [HB 4050](#) by Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) and Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) reduces the employer contribution rate to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System from sixteen- and one-half percent (16.5%) to nine and one-half percent (9.5%) for a five-year period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031. Beginning July 1, 2031, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute an amount to OPERS equal to sixteen and one-half percent (16.5%).

The bill passed the House on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 79 to 16. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 6. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/COLA/OPERS: [SB 1145](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) authorizes a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for members of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System who have been retired for at least ten (10) years as of June 30, 2026. COLA is set at three percent (3%) for retirees with at least ten (10) but fewer than twenty (20) years of retirement, and six percent (6%) for retirees with 20 or more years of retirement. The COLA will take effect November 1, 2026.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 41 to 4. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 79 to 3. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/COLA/OPPRS: [SB 1146](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) authorizes a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for members of the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System who have been retired for at least ten (10) years as of June 30, 2026. The COLA is set at three percent (3%) percent for retirees with at least ten (10) but fewer than twenty (20) years of retirement, and six percent (6%) for retirees with twenty (20) or more years of retirement. The COLA will take effect November 1, 2026.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 48 to 0. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 86 to 3. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/COLA/OFPRS: [SB 1147](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) sets the retirement benefit for volunteer firefighters who retire on or after November 1, 2026, at Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per month for each year of service, up to thirty (30) years. The bill authorizes a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for paid members of the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System who have been retired at least ten (10) years as of June 30, 2026. COLA is set at three percent (3%) for retirees with at least ten (10) but fewer than twenty (20) years of retirement, and six percent (6%) for retirees with twenty (20) or more years of retirement. The COLA will take effect November 1, 2026.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 45 to 2. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 80 to 2. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/One-Time Stipend/OFPRS & OPPRS: [SB 1149](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) authorizes a one-time Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) stipend for qualifying retired firefighters and police officers known as "tweeners". Tweeners are defined as individuals who retired between May 26, 1983, and November 1, 1989, who did not receive automatic benefit adjustments granted to retirees before May 26, 1983. They also retired before deferred option plans became available after November 1, 1989. The bill directs the boards of the OFPRS & OPPRS to issue the stipend on November 1, 2026, to any twener receiving system benefits as of October 31, 2026.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 47 to 0. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 84 to 0. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services: [SB 1164](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) fixes a fiscal year funding source for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) in the FY 2027 general appropriations bill and provides a One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) for departmental operating costs. The bill authorizes ODMHSAS to transfer the sum of Five Million Nine Hundred Sixty-nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-three Dollars (\$5,969,463.00) to the 9-8-8 Lifeline Revolving Fund created in the Enrolled [SB 1369](#). The bill appropriates Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) to be used for program growth and to replace funding no longer available due to the reduction of federal matching dollars. The bill also appropriates the sum of Thirty-nine Million Six Hundred Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Eleven Dollars (\$39,620,911.00) to be used to meet the obligations required in the consent decree pursuant to case number 23-cv-81-GKF-JFJ filed in the US District Court for the Northern District. The bill appropriates One Million Three Hundred Thousand

Dollars (\$1,300,000.00) to be used to maintain services for veterans and their families. The bill authorizes the Commissioner to request early transfer of tax collections to the General Revenue Fund through the Office of Management and Enterprise Services to address departmental cash-flow needs.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 43 to 2. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 73 to 14. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/OWRB: [SB 1175](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) appropriates Nine Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$925,000.00) to OWRB to set up a framework to carry out the provisions of Enrolled [SB 259](#). The bill appropriates Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) to be deposited into the Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) Water Projects Fund (225). OWRB may enter into contracts with financial institutions and execute such instruments to hold and disseminate loan funds in accordance with OWRB policies. The bill also appropriates Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) to be used for a regional water system project in northeast Oklahoma.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 37 to 8. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 87 to 3. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

Appropriations/OWRB: [SB 1176](#) by Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) and Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Faxon) authorizes OWRB to establish and administer a Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program, which may offer competitive loans to eligible entities for water and wastewater improvement projects, including incentives that support planning for workforce housing and commercial site readiness. OWRB is required to adopt rules to implement the program, including loan criteria, and all loans must include a clawback provision requiring repayment if contract terms are not met. The bill also establishes the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investment Program Revolving Fund.

The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 39 to 5. The bill passed the House on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 90 to 1. The bill moves to the Governor's desk.

The House and Senate both have budget portals on their websites that detail the State Budget in great detail. If you have any interest in seeing the whole budget picture, you can find the portals at:

[House Budget Portal](#)

[Senate Budget Portal](#)

BILLS MOVE TO GOVERNOR'S DESK

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 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 on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 41 to 5.

BILLS ON THE MOVE:

GTCA/Definitions: [HB 1638](#) by Rep. Mike Osburn (R-Edmond) and Sen. Dave Rader (R-Tulsa) modifies the definition of "public trust" as used in the Governmental Tort Claims Act as a public trust created in whole or in part, to operate, administer, or oversee any county jail facility.

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

Playgrounds/Outdoor Advertising: [HB 2053](#) by Rep. Preston Stinson (R-Edmond) and Sen. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) defines playground and planned unit development (PUD) as it relates to outdoor advertisements. "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.

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

School Zones/State Highways: [HB 2979](#) by Rep. Chris Banning (R-Bixby) and Sen. Todd Gollihare (R-Kellyville) creates the Tayln Bain Act directing ODOT to establish forty-five (45) mph school zones on portions of state highways upon the request of a local jurisdiction. The highway must meet certain conditions. The Department is to erect appropriate signage with maintenance and cost of operation to be the responsibility of the local jurisdiction.

The bill passed the Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee with the enacting clause stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Data Center Consumer Ratepayer Protection Act: [HB 2992](#) by Rep. Brad Boles (R-Marlow) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) creates the Data Center Consumer Protection Act of 2026. The bill requires governing bodies responsible for reviewing electric supplier rates to ensure that residential, commercial, and industrial customers are protected from paying unjust rates resulting directly from serving large load customers. The governing body is required to ensure that all rates are fair, just and reasonable and costs and revenues are assigned and allocated among customers in accordance with cost causation principles. The bill requires electric suppliers to establish and maintain separate terms and conditions of electric service applicable to any large load customer. The terms of service for large load customers shall be at least ten (10) years. This act applies to all electric suppliers serving load in this state, including investor-owned utilities regulation by OCC, electric cooperatives, municipal electric utilities and independent power producers. OCC may promulgate rules. Electric suppliers are required to comply with this act as a condition of providing service to large load customers.

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

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.

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

Firefighter Extinguisher Licensing Act: [HB 3081](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Grant Green (R-Wellston) 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.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Firefighters/Registered Sex Offenders: [HB 3082](#) by Rep. Mike Kelley (R-Yukon) and Sen. Kelly Hines (R-OKC) 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 Senate Public Safety Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 7 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Open Meetings Act/Attorney General: [HB 3278](#) by Rep. John Pfeiffer (R-Orlando) and Sen. Brent Howard (R-Altus) 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 an 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 Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Firearms/Students: [HB 3312](#) by Rep. Ryan Eaves (R-Atoka) and Sen. David Bullard (R-beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, requires every public school to annually provide students with age-appropriate and grade-appropriate instruction on firearm safety. The instruction for age-appropriated students shall begin as determined by Department of Education, in consultation with CLEET, and shall continue in each subsequent grade through grade twelve (12). Instruction required must teach students how to store, avoid injury, school safety, never touch a found firearm and immediately notify an adult if a firearm is found. The instruction must also be viewpoint neutral and not include the use or presence of live ammunition, live fire, or live firearm. Each public school shall begin firearm instruction at the required grade level determined by CLEET. A public school may elect to begin age-appropriate firearm instruction earlier than the required grade level if appropriate for its school district.

The bill passed the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 2. The bill moves to the full Senate.

CIB/Swimming Pool License: [HB 3338](#) by Rep. Chris Banning (R-Bixby) and Sen. Bryan Logan (R-Paden) creates the Pool Contractor Licensing Act. CIB is authorized, empowered and directed to make, prescribe, enforce, amend, establish fines and repeal rules governing the licensure of swimming pool contractors. No later than the effective date of this act, CIB must establish requirements for experience, training, continuing education, and examinations to obtain the license. a person licensed as a swimming pool contractor shall not perform electrical work or plumbing work that is outside the slope of standard pool installation or involves a

direct connection to a public water supply, sanitary sewer, or electrical service, unless such person is licensed to perform such work pursuant to the Plumbing license Law of 1955 or the Electrical Licensing Act. The initial license fee is Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), with an annual renewal fee of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00). A license is valid for a one (1) year period.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 2. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Corruption/Use of Information: [HB 3419](#) by Rep. Judd Strom (R-Copan) and Sen. Jack Stewart (R-Yukon) 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 Senate Local & County Government on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/OK Youth Entrepreneurs Promotion & Development Act of 2026: [HB 3548](#) by Rep. Cody Maynard (R-Durant) and Sen. Julie McIntosh (R-Porter) creates the Oklahoma Youth Entrepreneurs Promotion and Development Act of 2026. The bill exempts sales and income taxes on tangible personal property and services sold by businesses primarily owned and operated by individuals under eighteen (18) years of age. Sales tax exemptions are valid when the business is a sole proprietorship, with limited adult assistance, and annual gross revenue remains under One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The business needs to operate with the property owner's consent or as part of an event that registers youth vendors.

The bill modifies the Oklahoma taxable income code, providing an annual income exemption of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) derived from any lawful business activity for sole proprietors under eighteen (18). No person who is less than eighteen (18) years of age is required to obtain a business license from any entity of state or local government and are not subject to any fine or penalty as result of conducting such businesses for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days per year; provided they

comply with all Oklahoma licensing and registration laws, including holding a current license or registration in good standing.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee with the enacting clause stricken on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Sales Tax Exemption/Commercial Forestry Equipment: [HB 3661](#) by Rep. Eddy Dempsey (R-Valliant) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) removes the January 2027 expiration date on the sales tax exemption for commercial forestry equipment permanent making it permanent.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

CIB/Electrician Licenses: [HB 3673](#) by Rep. Melissa Provenzano (D-Tulsa) and Sen. George Burns (R-Pollard) provides for any license which remains expired for longer than one (1) year shall not be renewed but shall be reinstated pursuant to this subsection when compliant with all license requirements. To obtain the license formerly held, the former license holder shall be required to submit a reinstatement application provided by the CIB, pay the standard renewal fee for each year the license has been expired, plus all accrued late fees, plus a reinstatement penalty fee of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per full year of expiration; submit certification of completion within the preceding twelve-month period of all continuing education approved by the Committee of Electrical Examiners; and proves their good standing. A licensee is exempt from the continuing education requirements for license renewal for three (3) years from the date he or she passed their current licensing exam. A licensee reinstated through the option of completing the required hours of continuing education in lieu of retesting after being expired for more than one (1) year shall, for the first timely submitted license renewal of the reinstated license, complete the required continuing education pursuant to this act for renewing his or her license within thirty-six (36) months beginning from the date of the last verified continuing education course completed for reinstatement of an expired license.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Law Enforcement/Security Guard: [HB 4105](#) by Rep. Ross Ford (R-Broken Arrow) and Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) excludes from the definition of "security guard" any individual operating unarmed or contracted for any event, including, but not limited to, concerts, festivals, and sporting events, for individuals operating unarmed, any person contracted as an usher queue agent, ticket agent, gate agent, credential verification agent including the operation of electronic detection devices, and checking of personal items and bags, or similar role.

The bill passed the Senate Business & Insurance Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 0. The bill moves to the full Senate.

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

The bill passed the Senate Local & County Government on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 6 to 3. The bill moves to the full Senate.

Sales Tax Exemption/Out-of-State Agriculture Permits: [HB 4346](#) by Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) and Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) authorizes the State of Oklahoma to recognize and honor a valid out-of-state agricultural exemption permit or equivalent authorization issued to a person who is engaged in the business of farming or ranching. The "out-of-state agricultural exemption permit or equivalent authorization" means any permit, license, card, or other documentary proof issued by the state of Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico or Missouri provided those states extend an equivalent exemption to Oklahoma residents. OTC is authorized to promulgate rules, including but not limited to verification procedures and documentation requirements for out-of-state agricultural exemption permits or equivalent authorization.

The bill passed the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee on Monday with the enacting clause stricken by a [vote](#) of 8 to 3. The bill moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Public Finance/Pension Boards: [HB 4428](#) by Speaker Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) and Sen. Julie Daniels (R-Bartlesville) requires state and local pension fund boards to exercise shareholder voting rights solely based on pecuniary factors and exclude considerations such as environmental, social, or political objectives. If a proxy advisor is used, the advisor must provide a written commitment to follow the same standard. Any engagement between the Board of Trustees and a company regarding the exercise of shareholder votes or the introduction of providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries that maximize risk-adjusted returns over an appropriate investment horizon. The bill also establishes a reporting requirement, mandating boards to publish an annual report detailing all votes on company or proxy proposals and post it on their website by March 1 each year.

The bill defines "company" as publicly traded, for-profit corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other business entity that conducts its operations and is headquartered within the United States.

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

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 licensed by the State 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 Health & Human Services Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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.

The bill prohibits data centers from 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 passed the House Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 8 to 6. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Health & Human Services Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 9 to 3. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Government Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 16 to 1. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

Medical Marijuana/Reclamation: [SB 1242](#) by Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain) and Rep. T.J. Marti (R-Broken Arrow) requires all applicants for a commercial medical marijuana growing operation to submit a land reclamation fee of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00). This fee will not be required if the land has been owned by the applicant or first

degree relative for a minimum of five years before submitting the application and the Authority can verify this.

Upon the expiration or revocation of a medical marijuana business license or a determination that the business license is no longer in good standing, the Authority shall provide notice to all law enforcement agencies in the jurisdiction of the medical marijuana business that the business license has expired, been revoked, or is no longer in good standing.

The bill also creates a revolving fund for OMMA to be designated the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Land Reclamation Revolving Fund. Up to Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) of the funds may be used and expended by the Authority for environmental remediation and redevelopment projects.

The bill repeals 63 O.S. Supp. 2026, Section 427.26.

The bill passed the House Health & Human Services Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Natural Resources Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 12 to 1. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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.

The bill passed the House Government Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 17 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 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 Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

Law Enforcement/9-8-8 Lifeline Revolving Fund: [SB 1369](#) by Sen. Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) and Rep. Kevin Norwood (R-Owasso) requires the State of Oklahoma to designate the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to have primary oversight over the suicide prevention and crisis service activities and essential coordination with designated 988 Lifeline Crisis Centers. The designated 988 Lifeline Crisis Centers must meet requirements and guidelines. The Department will have also have primary oversight of suicide prevention and crisis service activities as well as the Department will make rules to allow appropriate information sharing and communication between and across crisis and emergency response systems. The state or related public health authority and designated 988 Lifeline Crisis Centers must use technology to enhance communication and coordination in the delivery of behavioral health crisis services and for data collection, analysis, and sharing. The bill creates the "988 Lifeline Revolving Fund" for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, which will expend funds for staffing, supporting, and operating the 988 Lifeline system.

The bill passed the House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 25 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 dispensed from the funds 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 Appropriations Committee with the title restored on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 25 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 2. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Health & Human Services Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 14 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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.

The bill passed the House Government Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 15 to 2. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Health & Human Services Oversight Committee on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Government Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 16 to 0. The bill moves to the full 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 House Commerce & Economic Development Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 10 to 4. The bill moves to the full House.

Water/Groundwater/Data Centers: [SB 1928](#) by Sen. Casey Murdock (R-Felt) and Rep. Anthony Moore (R-Clinton) requires OWRB to provide permit holders with a five-year flex allocation of groundwater. A five-year permit holder must annually report their prior year's usage using an approved meter and pay the annual fee. Existing permit holders do not need to get a new permit. Their five-year allocation is based on the maximum annual yield at the time of their original application. The five-year allocation for a new applicant is based on the current maximum annual yield of the basin. A five-year permit holder may exceed their annual allowable amount in any one year but must adhere to their five-year limit overall. They may not exceed their annual allocation by one hundred fifty percent (150%) in any one year. Groundwater irrigation districts and cost-share conservation districts must develop a voluntary program for providing measuring systems on a loan or cost share basis for permit holders that don't have a five-year flex allocation.

The bill prohibits data centers from using groundwater in open-air evaporative cooling systems. Data centers must use a closed-loop cooling system, or something similar, in order to receive a groundwater permit.

The bill passed the House Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Committee on Monday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 1. The bill moves to the full House.

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 & Public Safety Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Government Oversight Committee on Thursday by a [vote](#) of 11 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 Government Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 13 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

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 was [amended](#) and passed the House Government Oversight Committee on Tuesday by a [vote](#) of 15 to 0. The bill moves to the full House.

Property Tax/Homestead Exemption: [SJR 39](#) by President Pro Tempore Lonnie Paxton (R-Tuttle) and Speaker Kyle Hilbert (R-Bristow) refers to the people a vote amending Section 8B of Article 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution, which limits the annual growth of the fair cash value of real property shall not increase by more than five percent (5%) for tax years 2013 through 2026 and four percent (4%) for tax year 2027 and subsequent tax years. The resolution further limits the growth to three percent (3%) for tax years 2013 through 2026 and one and seventy-five hundredths' percent (1.75%) for tax year and subsequent tax years for real property for which a homestead exemption is granted and real property classified as agricultural land.

The bill replaces the existing senior freeze for qualifying seniors with a tiered cap on annual valuation increases based on income. Income thresholds are tied to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's county median income. The default cap is one and seventy-five hundredths' percent (1.75%), but lower-income seniors would receive reduced caps.

The resolution passed the House on Wednesday by a [vote](#) of 85 to 9. The resolution goes back to the Senate to accept or reject the House amendments.

NEXT WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

Next Thursday, April 23 is the deadline for bills to be heard in a committee of the opposite chamber. The House Oversight Committees have completed hearing most, if not all of their bills. The House Appropriations and Budget Committee may still meet to hear bills next week. The Senate Committees still have bills to hear, plus hearing Executive Nominations for agencies, boards and commissions.

May 7 is the deadline for bills to be heard on the Floor of the opposite chamber. By all accounts, the Legislature will adjourn early this year, but a date has not been publicly announced.