Oklahoma House of Representatives

2025 Session Highlights

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KEY
^{VO} – veto override

Introduction

The First Session of the 60th Oklahoma Legislature began with new leadership in both chambers and concluded with a series of achievements aimed at making long-term investments for current and future Oklahomans.

The Legislature prioritized comprehensive income tax reform, which included a quarter-percent reduction in the top marginal tax rate. This change sets the foundation for potential future reductions through a new trigger mechanism and simplifies the tax system by reducing the number of tax brackets. Economic development was also a top priority, with the establishment of several high-impact rebate and incentive programs designed to attract significant investment and innovation to the state. Similarly to previous sessions, education continued to be a central focus as well. The Legislature emphasized in-person learning by limiting virtual school days and enacting a "bell to bell" ban on cellphone use for students to minimize distractions in the classroom.

Additional investments were made in public safety, health care, and infrastructure. New programs were created to support childcare workers, provide remedies for elder abuse, and expand behavioral health services. Legislators also aimed to modernize government operations, reduce burdensome court fees, and improve oversight of administrative rules. The bills summarized in this publication represent just a sample of the significant policies passed by the Legislature in 2025.

Administrative Rules

HB 2728 creates the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act of 2025, which establishes new requirements for state agencies when adopting major administrative rules. The measure aims to improve economic impact analysis and legislative oversight of the rule-making process. The Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency (LOFT) must conduct rule impact analyses for major rules promulgated by the agencies. LOFT must determine if a proposed rule could incur costs exceeding $1 million in the first five years and report its findings to the Legislature.

HB 2729 requires state courts, hearing examiners, and administrative officers to independently interpret state laws, regulations, and documents without relying on state agency interpretations. In cases involving state agencies with remaining uncertainty, the court or hearing officer must prioritize interpretations that limit agency power and maximize individual liberty.

Agriculture and Wildlife

HB 1126 prohibits the false advertisement of food products and the sale of misbranded food. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF)

must investigate all credible complaints regarding food products that are falsely advertised or misbranded as meat products.

HB 1588 directs the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to conduct a comprehensive water quality study to determine the best course of action for protecting and improving the health of the Spring Creek watershed through voluntary, incentive-based programs.

SB 777 prohibits wild fish from being sold as a wild-born commodity. A licensed producer may collect fish broodstock from public waters, up to the normal possession limit set by a recreational fishing license, to use solely for propagation in a recirculating aquaculture system. Meat and other consumable products from a captive fish system may be sold in or out of state with proper permits. Live fish may also be sold according to the Department of Wildlife Conservation's restrictions. The department may establish processes and fees to facilitate broodstock transactions between the state and in-state aquatic propagators.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Controlled Substances

SB 574[vo] authorizes the Attorney General to use the Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Revolving Fund for opioid-related settlement agreements involving the state. The Attorney General may also use up to 10 percent of appropriations to the fund for opioid abatement projects, subject to approval by the Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board.

HB 2807 allows licensed medical marijuana transporters to temporarily store products that are documented and traceable in the seed-to-sale tracking system. The measure also requires pre-rolls to be sold in prepackaged form. Dispensaries must sell or dispose of all non-prepackaged inventory by November 1, 2025.

SB 1066 requires the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) to maintain a registry of recommending physicians. A physician must be registered to provide a medical marijuana recommendation to a licensed patient.

HB 2837 requires all employees of medical marijuana businesses to complete an OMMA-approved training course and submit proof of completion to receive their employee credentials.

Banking and Financial Services

HB 2765 transfers the administration of the Invest in Oklahoma program from the Oklahoma Center for Advancement of Science and Technology to the State Treasurer and expands the program to allow direct investments in Oklahoma companies. The measure also renames and restructures the five-member Cash Management and Investment Oversight Commission, now called the Invest in Oklahoma Board. The board members consist of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Auditor and Inspector, and two appointees—one from the Speaker of the House and one from the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The board must establish investment parameters for the program and approve the appointments and contracts of investment advisors and fiduciary managers hired by the State Treasurer. Within the board's parameters, the State Treasurer may place cash balance amounts for the program.

HB 1549 updates the Oklahoma Private Activity Bond (PAB) Allocation Act by consolidating the number of statutory activity pools, shortening the application window for pool volume cap allocations, and modifying their volume caps. The new allocation deadline is June 30, and any unallocated sums remaining in the pools will be placed in the Consolidated Pool. Unused funds in the Consolidated Pool as of December 1 may be carried forward. The measure also outlines the order for allocations based on when the project applications are received.

Business

SB 638 amends the Unfair Sales Act by removing the requirement that retailers include a six percent markup on merchandise. The measure also creates a misdemeanor crime for selling motor fuel below cost, which may be punishable by a fine of up to $1,000.

SB 662 requires the Oklahoma Workforce Commission to implement programs to develop the workforce in high-demand or critical occupations, expand work-based learning opportunities, and grow innovation in public schools for workforce success. The commission must also serve as the centralized data repository for the state's workforce development activities and provide data for the Legislature's interactive Workforce & Infrastructure Working Group map.

SB 642 allows a general contractor to provide workers' compensation insurance to a subcontractor and their employees through a written agreement. The general contractor may deduct the insurance premium costs from the contract price or the subcontractor's pay. The measure also increases the permanent partial disability workers' compensation cap from $360 to $375 per week beginning July 1, 2025.

HB 1833 establishes the 11-member Rethinking Paying Subminimum Wage to Persons with Disabilities Task Force to operate until November 1, 2027. The task force must develop a plan to phase out subminimum wage payments to workers with disabilities under 14(c) certificates. The goal is to transition these workers to competitive, integrated employment at or above minimum wage or alternative day programs for those unable or uninterested in transitioning.

Children, Youth, and Family Services

SB 658 prohibits the Department of Human Services (DHS) from forcing adoptive or foster parents to accept government policies on sexual orientation or gender identity that contradict their personal beliefs. The measure also prohibits DHS from denying adoption or foster placement based on these beliefs.

HB 1965 establishes procedures for terminating parental rights. If a jury trial is waived, the court must issue a scheduling order within 30 days, and a bench trial must start within 90 days, unless all parties agree to a delay or exceptional circumstances arise. Reunification services in a child's individualized service plan are limited to 15 months from when the child enters foster care. If the parent has not resolved the issues leading to foster care by that time, the district attorney may seek termination of parental rights, with certain exemptions. When appointing guardians, preference must be given to the child's relatives. The measure also requires first-time juvenile offenders facing misdemeanor charges to receive diversion services.

HB 1566 establishes civil remedies for cases of elder neglect, exploitation, or abuse, allowing claims to be filed in district court. Victims or their representatives may seek damages and attorney fees. Courts may order access to the victim's records and grant restraining or injunctive relief to prevent further harm. Additionally, physician-patient or spousal privilege may not be used to withhold evidence in these proceedings.

HB 2778[vo] creates the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program to expand access to the Child Care Subsidy Program for employees of childcare facilities. The program will sunset on November 1, 2028, and will be administered by the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness. To qualify for the program, the employee's annual gross household income must not exceed $120,000 for a two-parent household or $60,000 for a single-parent household. Employees who meet the household income limits will have their income excluded from consideration when calculating cost-sharing or co-payment responsibilities under the Child Care Subsidy Program. If a childcare facility employee qualifies for the Child Care Subsidy Program under normal program requirements, they are entitled to a full co-payment waiver.

Corrections

HB 2780 creates the Prison Acquisition Revolving Fund for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (DOC) to purchase a prison from a private prison contractor.

A companion measure to HB 2780, **SB 1160** appropriates $312 million to the Prison Acquisition Revolving Fund. $238,077,462 will come from the Revenue Stabilization Fund, and the remaining $73,922,538 will come from the General Revenue Fund.

SB 85 increases the per diem reimbursement rate paid to counties by DOC for retaining inmates from $27 to $32 per day.

SB 595 creates the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act, updating and streamlining requirements for all detention and lockup facilities. A facility may request a waiver if enforcement of the requirements would impose undue hardship upon the inmates, county, municipality, or public trust.

County and Municipal Government

HB 1664 allows three county commissioners from the same county to attend conferences, trainings, social events, and proceedings of the Legislature, as long as official action is not taken. For counties with a budget board, county commissioners and other elected officials may discuss budgetary matters provided that a quorum of the county budget board is not present and no official action is taken.

SB 403 allows county purchasing agents to select the next lowest and best bidder from the list of qualified bidders if the original bidder is unable to provide the service. Bidders will be considered at or below the amount they originally bid. Additionally, the measure exempts information technology, telecommunication goods, and certain professional services from county purchasing and procurement requirements.

HB 1166 amends the annexation process for municipalities. The measure establishes that no municipality may annex more than the greater of 10 percent of its current land area or eight square miles in one area unless the municipality obtains the written consent from the property owners of at least 65 percent of the acres to be annexed and 25 percent of the population to be annexed.

A municipal service extension plan must be included in the notice published in the newspaper and mailed to all property owners within the proposed annexed territory. If the extension of municipal services is not substantially complete within the allotted time, the affected owners may either petition a court for enforcement of completion or bring a process for detachment. The measure further establishes the guidelines for the detachment process.

Additionally, a municipality may annex territory without reaching the owners' consent threshold if the territory to be annexed is bordered by at least 50 percent of municipal property and the governing board proves that annexation would be more beneficial to owners. Owners can refute the annexation by showing that it better benefits them to stay detached. Municipalities cannot annex territory in this manner more than once per year.

Lastly, a municipality may not attach ad valorem taxes to an annexed area for a sinking fund to satisfy any judgment if the annexed area was not part of the municipality at the time of judgment.

SB 434 increases the maximum retirement contribution percentage for county employees from 18.5 percent to 22 percent beginning July 1, 2025.

Criminal Justice

HB 2164[VO] raises the penalty for public corruption from a misdemeanor to a felony. A person convicted of public corruption is prohibited from holding any public office in the state, and any corruption violation is grounds for termination of state employment. An officer, employee, or contractor of a state agency who obtains nonpublic information for personal gain is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment of up to 5 years, a fine of up to $10,000, or both fine and imprisonment. Additionally, business or familial relationships must be disclosed in bid submissions to prevent collusion, bid-rigging, and conflicts of interest.

HB 2235[LINE ITEM VETO] modifies the compensation process for individuals wrongly convicted of a crime. A person may request expungement based on innocence proven by DNA evidence or obtain a full pardon from the Governor. Compensation includes $50,000 for each year served in prison, with an additional $50,000 per year for time spent on death row. Individuals released on parole or probation may receive an extra $25,000 for each year of supervision. Awards under $1 million are paid as a lump sum, while those over $1 million include an initial lump sum of $1 million, followed by the remaining payments over three years.

A provision that would have allowed the individual to obtain state health insurance and a provision that would have provided higher education tuition waivers to the individual and their children were line item vetoed by the Governor.

HB 1001 creates Lauria and Ashley's Law, requiring anyone convicted of accessory to murder in the first or second degree to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

HB 1003 increases the age limitation for rape by increasing the age of consent to 18 years of age. The measure also removes an age qualifier to clarify that sex between a school employee and a student under the age of 20 is considered rape. Additionally, the measure modifies the Romeo and Juliet exception by stating that a consensual act between two people who are at least 16 years old is only considered rape if one of them is more than 4 years older than the other.

HB 1217 prohibits a person from engaging in an adult performance that contains obscene material on public property or in a public place where a minor is present. Political subdivisions are also prohibited from allowing, permitting, organizing, or authorizing an adult performance containing obscene material in such settings. Violators guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment of up to one year, a fine of $500 to $1,000, or both fine and imprisonment.

HB 1460 removes the following court fees assessed to various defendants:

- $5 for a misdemeanor possession of marijuana or drug paraphernalia offense;
- $15 for a misdemeanor or felony DUI offense;
- $40 for an indigent representation application;
- $100 to the Drug Abuse Education and Treatment Revolving Fund for a DUI offense.
- $300 per month for electronic monitoring; and
- Reimbursement to law enforcement for costs incurred while cleaning an illegal drug laboratory site.

HB 1462 directs the court to prioritize payments for restitution to the victim when sentencing an offender. The court clerk must inquire whether restitution is owed before accepting any payment toward fines, fees, or assessments from the offender.

Economic Development

HB 2781 creates the Reindustrialize Oklahoma Act (ROA-25), an investment rebate program administered by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODC). The program will run until July 1, 2045, offering rebates to manufacturing establishments that invest a minimum of $2 billion in capital expenditures and create at least 700 new direct jobs within the first year of the rebate period. By year two, the jobs threshold increases to 1,000 for the remainder of the rebate period. The establishment must also meet the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program requirements, but it may not receive Quality Jobs rebate payments for any project or development receiving ROA-25 rebate payments.

To set up a funding stream for the rebate payments, the State Treasurer must purchase a 15-year annuity from funds appropriated to the ROA-25 Revolving Fund upon receiving notice of a satisfactory project feasibility study from ODC. The annuity distributions then transfer to the ROA-25 Beneficiary Fund each year to provide ODC with the funding to issue rebate payments to the qualifying establishment.

A companion measure to HB 2781, **SB 1000** transfers $255 million to the ROA-25 Revolving Fund. $180 million will come from the Perform Fund, and the remaining $75 million will come from funds previously appropriated to ODC.

SB 987 creates the nine-member Oklahoma Department of Commerce Board to:

- Set rules and policies for the department;
- Approve strategic plans and budgets;
- Advise in appointing and compensating the chief executive officer;
- Endorse economic projects with the Legislative Evaluation and Development Committee; and
- Submit annual reports to the Governor and Legislature recommending future activities.

The Secretary of Commerce serves as the board's chair. Board members must have at least five years of private sector experience and expertise in certain fields. Member appointments must include representation from municipalities with populations of 50,000 or less.

SB 324[VO] creates the Oklahoma Research and Development Rebate Fund and Program to allow qualifying establishments to receive a five percent rebate reimbursement for qualified research expenditures. The program will be administered by ODC and is limited to a $20 million cap every fiscal year.

SB 578 extends the sunset date of the Oklahoma Quality Events Incentive Act from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2031.

HB 2110 creates the Bringing Sitcoms Home from Hollywood Pilot Program Act and establishes an incentive rebate program for live audience episodic series that are filmed or produced in Oklahoma. The measure outlines the incentive structure and a list of qualified activities that would increase the incentive percentage. The minimum base rebate is 25 percent, and the maximum incentive is 30 percent.

To qualify, an eligible project must have a minimum budget of $200,000 per episode, have at least six episodes per season, and have a minimum of 50 live audience members in attendance for each episode. The production company must also utilize apprentice services to qualify for the rebate. The number of apprentices required on a project depends on the amount of qualified Oklahoma expenditures being claimed for the incentive rebate. Furthermore, the production company must feature an approved logo in its closing credits for at least five seconds.

If a production company is also claiming a sales tax exemption for production expenses, it is barred from receiving the rebate payments unless it repays the full amount of the sales tax exemption to the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC). Application for the rebate program will be administered by the Department of Commerce Film and Music Office, and payments will be issued from OTC to eligible production companies. The program has a $10 million annual funding cap and will sunset on July 1, 2032.

HB 2374[VO] expands the Filmed in Oklahoma Act of 2021 by adding animation, commercials, documentaries, feature films, game shows, pilots, reality television, scripted television, and talk shows to the definition of *film*. The measure also removes the salary restriction for above-the-line personnel and requires loan-out company employees to pay state income tax on services performed in Oklahoma.

Education

SB 139 requires school boards to adopt policies prohibiting student cell phone usage for the 2025-2026 school year. The policy must include disciplinary actions for violations. Schools may provide exceptions for emergencies and for students who need a phone to monitor health issues. Cell phone policies become optional for school districts beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

A companion measure to SB 139, **SB 1129** directs the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability to use $500,000 of its appropriated funds to administer a grant program to purchase cell phone storage equipment.

HB 1727 allows the children of public school teachers to qualify for an Oklahoma's Promise scholarship under the following conditions:

- The household income may not exceed 700 percent of the federal poverty level; and
- The teacher must be a certified, full-time teacher who has worked in a public school district for at least 10 years. This excludes superintendents, principals, and other administrators.

The measure also extends the scholarship application deadline to December 31 of a student's senior year and age 17 for homeschooled students.

SB 140 creates the Oklahoma Math Achievement and Proficiency Act. The measure requires elementary school students to be screened three times per year for deficiencies or advancements in math skills and provided the appropriate math instruction based on their results. The measure also provides for summer math academies and establishes new guidelines for college teacher prep programs that train math teachers.

HB 1087 requires schools to extend their school year by one day. The measure also adds 10 years to the teacher salary schedule, extending it from 25 years of experience to 35 years of experience. This ensures teachers receive an annual raise for ten additional years.

SB 711 modifies state law regarding school A-F report cards. The measure:

- Prohibits chronic absenteeism from being included as a measure of school success on the state school report cards;
- Modifies how school grades are calculated;
- Allows schools to receive up to three bonus points on their report card for providing in-person classroom instruction above 180 days and 1,080 hours; and
- Allows schools to receive up to two bonus points on their report card for improving their chronic absenteeism rate.

The measure also requires the State Board of Education to amend the state Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan in accordance with the changes in the bill. The State Board of Education must submit the proposed amendment to the U.S. Department of Education by August 1, 2025.

HB 1075 modifies the procedure a school district superintendent must follow when filing a termination recommendation for a teacher or administrator who is under investigation for alleged abuse of a student. The measure requires a superintendent to submit a copy of their recommendation for termination to the State Board of Education, regardless of whether the staff member resigns before or after the recommendation is made.

SB 364 prohibits school districts from using corporal punishment on any student identified with a disability in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Elections and Ethics

SB 652 consolidates the number of permissible election dates to eliminate inconsistent odd-even year election dates and establishes a fixed election calendar that requires elections to be held on one of the dates below beginning January 1, 2026:

- Second Tuesday of February;
- First Tuesday of April;
- Third Tuesday of June;
- Fourth Tuesday of August;
- First Tuesday after the first Monday of November; and
- Second Tuesday of December beginning December of 2025 and every four years after.

The Governor may only hold a special election on the modified election dates. Additional special election dates are outlined in the measure for use under specific circumstances.

SB 1086 authorizes the Secretary of the State Election Board to compare the list of registered voters in Oklahoma to any federal, state, or local database that contains information on the citizenship status of persons residing in Oklahoma. The secretary must send notice to any registered voter listed in the database as not being a citizen of the United States. The registered voter has 30 days to present proof of citizenship to the applicable county election board via mail, email, or in person. If the registered voter fails to present proof, the voter's registration is canceled.

Additionally, the measure requires the electronic voter registration list held by the secretary to be made available to the following people:

- In-state residents who are citizens of the United States;
- Official representatives of political parties recognized by state law;
- Candidates for office in Oklahoma and their official representatives; and
- Other persons authorized by state law.

Any person requesting the voter registration list must complete an application form. Knowingly providing the list to a foreign national, commercial interest, or governmental entity is unlawful. Additionally, the voter registration list may not be used for commercial purposes. Commercial purposes do not include the use of the voter list by campaigns, political parties, government officials, or public opinion pollsters to contact voters.

SB 147 directs county election boards to conduct a post-election audit for general elections, primary elections, special elections, and presidential primary elections. Under the direction of the Secretary of the State Election Board, the secretary of the county election board may also conduct a post-election audit for any election.

HB 2795 increases the funding cap for the Ethics Commission's Political Subdivision Enforcement Fund from $150,000 to $450,000.

Energy and Natural Resources

HB 2756 requires transmission developers to obtain a certificate of authority from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) before they build any high-voltage transmission lines and facilities with a rating of 300 kV or higher. The measure also requires transmission developers to inform various stakeholders of their intentions to build a high-voltage facility.

HB 2752 prohibits renewable energy facilities from using eminent domain to build on private property. The measure also requires high-voltage transmission developers to obtain a certificate of authority from OCC prior to using eminent domain.

SB 998 allows utility companies to begin recovering work-in-progress expenses prior to the operation of a new

or newly expanded facility. OCC must permit a special rate for the recovery of such expenses. If the initiative to construct or expand a natural gas facility is terminated before completion, the utility must automatically refund customers any money collected through the special rate plus interest. The utility has 90 days after terminating the project to issue the refund.

HB 1422 increases the maximum bond capacity for the Grand River Dam Authority from $2 billion to $3.6 billion.

SB 132 modifies idle gas well provisions. If an operator has idle gas wells that have not produced for a consecutive 20-year period as of the effective date of the act, they must plug or produce from those wells in the following manner:

- 25 percent of their idle wells must be plugged or producing by July 1, 2028;
- 50 percent of their idle wells must be plugged or producing by July 1, 2031; and
- All remaining idle wells must be plugged or producing by July 1, 2035.

Once a gas well is deemed idle, the operator will have 10 years to plug or produce from it. A well is deemed idle if there has been no commercial production from it in 10 years. OCC may grant exemptions for good cause.

SB 480 allows certain companies and individuals that produce power on their own premises to avoid being regulated as a public utility. They may not sell the power to the public.

Insurance

HB 1084 prohibits the solicitation or acceptance of assignment agreements for post-loss insurance benefits for property damage under auto, residential, or commercial property insurance policies.

HB 1512 authorizes the Insurance Commissioner to apply for a federal waiver with the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services that would allow the state to modify certain requirements of the Affordable Care Act. The commissioner may also establish and operate a health insurance marketplace exchange.

Judiciary and Civil Procedure

SB 453 addresses three issues related to civil procedure. First, the measure creates the Oklahoma Expedited Actions Act to allow lawsuits with a monetary relief request of $250,000 or less to use an expedited actions process that has set deadlines and limits. The court may also refer an expedited case to an alternative dispute resolution process. The process cannot exceed a half-day in duration, cost no more than double the civil filing fees, and must be completed within 60 days before the initial trial setting.

Further, the measure modifies the standard for the admissibility of expert testimony to align with the federal rules of evidence.

Lastly, the measure raises the award cap for noneconomic losses for bodily injury claims from $350,000 to $500,000. For permanent and severe personal bodily injuries, there is no cap. For a permanent mental injury that prevents the plaintiff from being employed or enjoying a reasonable standard of living, the cap is $1 million.

SB 632 outlines the framework for the creation of two business court divisions headquartered in Oklahoma County and Tulsa County. The measure:

- Directs the Oklahoma Supreme Court and business court judges to promulgate rules for the implementation and administration of business courts;
- Authorizes business court judges to appoint a secretary-bailiff, law clerk, and other personnel approved by the Chief Justice;
- Sets the salary for a business court judge at the same pay as an associate judge of the Supreme Court;
- Sets the term for business court judges at eight years;
- Outlines the qualifications to serve as a business court judge, which include being at least 35 years of age, being a United States citizen, and having at least 10 years of legal experience;
- Outlines the business court judge appointment process, in which the Speaker of the House provides the Governor with a list of three candidates, the Governor chooses an appointee from the list, and the Senate confirms the appointment;
- Allows the Governor to reject the list of appointees from the Speaker and request a subsequent list. The list must be provided to the Governor within 40 days of the request, or the Governor can appoint any person who meets the statutory qualifications to serve;
- Provides for an appointed business court judge to serve on an interim basis if the appointment is made when the Legislature is not in session;
- Requires the aforementioned appointment process to be used to fill vacancies;
- Outlines the authority and jurisdiction of business courts and lists the types of cases that can be added to a business court docket beginning January 1, 2026, as long as the claim amount is at least $500,000;
- Allows a jury trial if claimed by a party within the time period established by court rules;
- Requires non-jury trials to be resolved within 12 months unless an extension is requested by the disputing parties; and

- Establishes a $1,500 filing fee for cases filed in business court.

SB 1168 raises the recovery cap for claims brought under the Governmental Tort Claims Act and requires the claim liability limits to be inflation-adjusted every five years. For property damage-related claims, the maximum recovery amount is increased to $75,000. Nuisance claims are capped at $275,000 for cities and counties with a population of 150,000 or more and $225,000 for smaller cities and counties. For any other type of claim, the maximum claim amount is $250,000 for small cities and counties and $375,000 for cities and counties at or above the 150,000 population threshold. Furthermore, medical negligence claims at a university hospital or mental health hospital are limited to $300,000. The measure also sets an aggregate cap of $2 million for any number of claims arising out of a single occurrence or accident.

HB 2770 provides a 15 percent pay increase for judges beginning July 1, 2025.

HB 2771 increases the number of judges in various judicial districts across the state. For the Oklahoma-Canadian Counties Judicial Administrative District, the number of special judges is increased from one to two beginning July 1, 2025.

For District Court Judicial District No. 7 (Oklahoma County), the number of district judges is increased from 15 to 16 starting with the 2026 election cycle. The additional judge for the 16th seat will be elected at-large.

For District Court Judicial District No. 26 (Canadian County), the number of district judges is increased from two to three starting with the 2026 election cycle. All three judges in District No. 26 will be elected at large.

Public Finance and Appropriations

HB 2766 is the general appropriations bill for fiscal year 2026. Please refer to the House Budget Transparency Portal for a detailed explanation of the $12.59 billion in appropriated funds.

HB 2773 authorizes $250 million from the Legacy Capital Financing Fund for the Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medical Authority to construct, refurbish, or expand its animal teaching hospitals.

HB 2774 authorizes $200 million from the Legacy Capital Financing Fund for the University Hospitals Authority to construct, refurbish, or expand facilities for its pediatric heart hospital.

HB 2776 updates the financing arrangements for two legacy capital projects approved last session. The measure eliminates the $19 million authorization to repair the tunnels in the Capitol Complex and increases the financing authorization for the Kelley Building and Kelley Annex by $19 million. As a result, the renovation budget for the day care facility at the Kelley buildings increases to $45,322,300.

HB 2775 authorizes $41.6 million from the Legacy Capital Financing Fund to construct, refurbish, or expand military facilities for the Military Department.

SB 1150 appropriates $15 million to the Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics to upgrade airport facilities.

SB 1178 appropriates the following amounts from the Statewide Recovery Fund to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS):

- $7,929,596.45 to expand the Tulsa Center for Behavioral Health; and
- $66.5 million to pay for a replacement facility for Griffin Memorial Hospital.

Public Health

HB 2048[vo] creates the 340B Nondiscrimination Act, which prohibits health insurance issuers, pharmacy benefits managers, and other third-party payors from:

- Discriminating, offering lower reimbursement, or imposing any separate terms upon a provider on the basis that a provider participates in 340B drug pricing;
- Requiring a provider to reverse, resubmit, or clarify a 340B drug pricing claim after the initial adjudication; and
- Requiring or compelling the submission of ingredient costs or pricing data pertaining to 340B drugs.

The measure also creates restrictions for manufacturers. The Insurance Department and Attorney General may make rules and regulations interpreting provisions of this act. The Attorney General may impose civil fines for violations. Nothing in this measure will be less restrictive than federal law and will not conflict with federal law or other state laws.

HB 1600 creates the Lori Brand Patient Bill of Rights Act of 2025, which outlines the rights of individuals being treated in the state, including the rights of minor patients. The measure also outlines responsibilities for a patient, their guardian, or a legally authorized representative.

SB 56 requires the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, pending federal approval, to establish a program under which a family member of a Medicaid member may be recognized as a caregiver and may, under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse, provide services to their family member through a licensed home care agency. The program must require the family caregiver to meet qualifications prescribed by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board. The administrator of the authority may apply for state plan amendments and waivers as necessary for implementation and securing federal

financial participation for state Medicaid expenditures under the federal program.

HB 1389[VO] adds contrast-enhanced mammogram and molecular breast imaging to the definition of *diagnostic examination for breast cancer*. The measure also provides that all health benefit plans include coverage for supplemental examinations for breast cancer.

SB 1067 authorizes a local government entity or ambulance service provider acting on its behalf to annually submit ambulance service rates set by the local government to the Insurance Department. The department must submit a review of the data to the Legislature by January 1, 2027. The rates will sunset unless modified by the Legislature before December 31, 2027.

SB 1019 prohibits any insurer from establishing, implementing, or enforcing any policy, practice, or procedure that imposes a time limit on the amount of covered anesthesia services provided during a medical or surgical procedure or restricts coverage or payment of anesthesia time.

HB 2050 authorizes the State Board of Medical Licensure to grant limited licensure to an international medical school graduate who graduated from a medical school that meets the requirements of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). The medical school graduate must secure employment with a provider that has an accredited training program and must be supervised by the chair of the department. After three years of practice in good standing and passing the required U.S. Medical Licensing Examination steps, the graduate may apply for full licensure.

HB 2784 authorizes the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority (OSUMA) to enter into a cooperative venture to train students at a Level 1 Trauma Center operated by the Oklahoma State University Medical Trust or an affiliated entity of the trust for Medicaid supplemental payments. OSUMA must provide an annual certification to the Health Care Authority stating the trauma center meets the standards for receiving Medicaid supplemental payments. The measure outlines which entities in the state qualify for the partnership and also creates the Emergency Medicine Revolving Fund for OSUMA.

A companion measure to HB 2784, **HB 2793** appropriates $8 million from the Progressing Rural Economic Prosperity Fund to the Emergency Medicine Revolving Fund.

Public Safety

HB 1222 prohibits law enforcement from releasing a person arrested for a second or subsequent DUI without the person first appearing before a judge to determine bail. The measure establishes that certain timing requirements for tests admitted into evidence do not apply to persons under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances. Lastly, the measure clarifies that a person may withdraw blood when presented with a written statement signed by a peace officer stating that exigent circumstances necessitate the withdrawal of blood.

SB 641 creates the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Consumer Protection Act, establishing that hourly rates for labor for administrative charges must align with the Unfair Claims Settlement Practices Act. However, the Insurance Commissioner may annually adjust rates to account for inflation beginning on January 1, 2027. Administrative charges may only be charged up to four hours. The measure also establishes maximum rates for storage provided by an auto body repair shop.

SB 20 creates the Oklahoma Secure Roads and Safe Trucking Act of 2025, requiring a non-domiciled commercial driver to possess a valid work visa and proof of citizenship while operating a commercial motor vehicle. Violators are subject to a $3,000 fine. A driver operating a vehicle while under prohibition is guilty of a misdemeanor and may also be subject to a $1,000 fine, imprisonment in the county jail for up to 90 days, or both a fine and imprisonment.

Further, any person operating a commercial motor vehicle must possess a valid commercial driver license from the United States, Canada, or Mexico with a valid work visa and proof of citizenship from the country that issued the license. Any operator of a commercial motor vehicle must be able to demonstrate sufficient proficiency in the English language. Violators are subject to a $3,000 fine and are prohibited from operating a commercial vehicle until they meet identification requirements. A driver operating a vehicle while under prohibition is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be subject to a $1,000 fine, imprisonment in the county jail for up to 90 days, or both a fine and imprisonment. The fine for this violation is to be deposited in the Trauma Care Assistance Revolving Fund.

HB 2163[VO] creates the public access counselor position within the Office of the Attorney General. If a public body denies or delays a person's request to inspect a public record, that person may file a request for review with the public access counselor within 30 days of being denied. If the public access counselor determines the denial was illegal, the counselor must forward a copy of their review to the public body within seven business days, specifying which documents must be furnished. The Attorney General has 60 days to review a request and issue guidance to the public body or official. After receiving the guidance, the public body must either comply with the Open Records Act or respond to the requester.

SB 786 prohibits consuming marijuana or inhaling secondhand marijuana smoke while operating a motor

vehicle. Additionally, no person operating a motor vehicle may possess any open container of marijuana in the passenger area. The fee for violations is $250.

Revenue and Taxation

HB 2764 provides a quarter-percent cut to the top marginal personal income tax rate and restructures the income tax brackets. Beginning with tax year 2026, the top rate will be lowered from 4.75 percent to 4.50 percent, and the number of tax brackets will be reduced from six to four.

The measure also establishes a rate reduction trigger mechanism to phase out the personal income tax by quarter-percent increments when revenue conditions are met and certified by the State Board of Equalization at its annual December meeting. To trigger a rate reduction, the comparison year total collections amount must exceed the base year total collections amount plus the income tax reduction cost threshold. The income tax rate reduction threshold is the single tax year fiscal impact of a quarter-percent tax cut multiplied by 1.25. When a trigger is met, the rate reduction will take effect in two tax years. The measure also includes a safeguard provision to automatically nullify a rate reduction trigger if a revenue failure is declared.

HB 1372 grants a 50 percent reduction in gross production taxes on oil and gas produced from wells on the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's (OCC) orphaned well list. The reduction lasts for 36 months. A producer overseeing a recovery project for an orphaned well must file a $25,000 security interest for each recovered well with the Secretary of State, which will be held in interest for OCC's well plugging fund.

HB 2260[VO] establishes three tax credits for civil engineers and their employers beginning in tax year 2026. Qualified engineering businesses that employ a civil engineer receive a tax credit equal to five percent of the compensation paid to an engineer until January 1, 2031, or ten percent if the engineer graduated from an Oklahoma college or university. The credit is capped at $12,500 per employee per year and may be claimed for up to five years. An employer may also claim another tax credit for up to 50 percent of the tuition reimbursed to an employee for up to four years of employment until January 1, 2031. Additionally, the engineer hired is eligible for a tax credit of $5,000 per year for up to five years until January 1, 2031.

State Government

SB 1027 modifies several pieces of the initiative and referendum petition process. Most notably, the measure establishes limits on the number of valid petition signatures allowed from each county.

If the petition is to change state law, the number of valid signatures allowed from each county is capped at 11.5 percent of the number of votes cast in the county during the most recent statewide general election for Governor. If the petition is to change the Constitution, the signature count from each county may not exceed 20.8 percent of the number of votes cast in the county during the most recent statewide general election for Governor. Citizens signing a petition must include the county of residence associated with their voter registration card.

The measure also requires the gist statement of any initiative or referendum petition to be explained in basic words and prohibits the use of any words that have special meaning for a particular profession. Further, the gist statement may not reflect any partiality and must indicate whether a proposed measure will have a fiscal impact on the state and the potential source of funding.

Any person who circulates a petition must be a registered voter in Oklahoma. The circulator must disclose to those signing the petition and the Secretary of State if they are being compensated to circulate the petition and by whom. Circulators cannot receive compensation from an entity outside of Oklahoma or be compensated based on the number of signatures. A weekly report must be sent to the Secretary of State detailing any expenditures related to the circulation of the petition and attesting that all donated funds were received from resources within Oklahoma.

HB 2289 adds currently elected state and federal officials to the definition of an *at-risk individual*, authorizing them to file a written notice and request that their personal covered information, as well as their immediate family's covered information, be kept private. State agencies are prohibited from publicly posting or displaying such covered information and have 72 hours to remove it from any public post after receiving the written notice.

HB 2674 creates the Statewide Official Compensation Commission to set salaries for statewide elected officials. Statewide elected officials include the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Auditor and Inspector, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Insurance Commissioner, Commissioner of Labor, and members of the Corporation Commission. The commission will consist of the same nine members as the Board on Legislative Compensation.

HB 2762 requires individuals who lobby on behalf of associated international corporations to register as international corporation agents with the Secretary of State and pay the $25 filing fee. Persons covered by a national security agreement with the U.S. Committee on Foreign Investment are exempt from this measure.

HB 2783 establishes a seven-year term limit for board members of the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust

Fund and provides that board members serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.

HB 2785[VO] establishes budget review responsibilities and reporting requirements for the director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services as they relate to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Transportation

HB 2772 appropriates $610 million to the Rebuilding Oklahoma Access and Driver Safety (ROADS) Fund for fiscal year 2026 and directs the Department of Transportation (ODOT) to use $20 million of its ROADS funding each fiscal year to construct, repair, and maintain highway weight stations until June 30, 2033.

HB 2758 creates the Preserving and Advancing County Transportation (PACT) Fund and establishes an off-the-top mechanism for revenue from natural gas gross production taxes to be deposited into the fund. The fund can accrue up to $75 million each fiscal year and will be used to construct and maintain the county highway system. It will be distributed as follows:

Two-thirds allocated to counties based on their per-county-mile highway construction and maintenance ratio. The measure sets the target ratio at $4,000 per county road mile, and money will be allocated to counties with the lowest ratio first until all counties reach the target ratio. Any remaining funds from the two-thirds allocated must be given to counties based on the number of county road miles and county bridges; and

One-third allocated to counties for the reconstruction of county bridges on the portion of the county highway system defined as a major collector route. Counties must submit project proposals to ODOT for evaluation against certain criteria as laid out in the measure.

HB 1103 requires the Transportation Commission to notify a previous property owner if the land they sold to the commission is going to be offered for sale. The notice must contain an offer to sell the property back to the previous owner at no greater than the original price, provided the previous owner did not use federal funds to purchase the property. Notices must be sent by registered mail and posted on ODOT's website. Previous property owners have 90 days to accept the commission's offer of sale.

Veterans and Military Affairs

HB 2769[VO] amends numerous provisions related to the powers, duties, qualifications, pay, and retirement benefits of the Adjutant General. To become the Adjutant General, the appointee must be a higher-ranking Oklahoma National Guard (ONG) member with at least eight years of service. The Adjutant General must also receive the same pay and retirement benefits as a Major General, regardless of whether they have been federally recognized at this rank.

The measure also:

- Requires a member of ONG to respond to a notification of pending judicial punishment within 45 calendar days;
- Prohibits a member of ONG from being reduced in rank except when the rank reduction results from nonjudicial punishment;
- Prohibits federal officials from convening a court-martial proceeding under the Oklahoma Military Code unless the Governor granted prior consent;
- Allows the Governor to reappoint a former officer who had been dismissed;
- Requires the Governor or Adjutant General to determine eligibility for pay and allowances for the time after an executed part of a court-martial sentence is set aside;
- Allows forgery to be punishable by court-martial;
- Prohibits any member of the state military forces from knowingly using or ingesting marijuana products; and
- Adds domestic violence against a spouse, intimate partner, or immediate family member as a crime punishable by court-martial.

To provide financial assistance to ONG members who are not old enough to receive their full retirement pay but have at least 25 years of ONG service, the measure also creates the ONG Supplemental Retirement Pay Revolving Fund. Beginning November 1, 2027, funds may be used to provide payments to ONG members from the time they become eligible for retirement benefits from the Defense Finance Accounting Service until federal retirement benefits commence.

The measure also creates the Oklahoma National Guard Career Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to ONG members who enroll in a technology center school. Subject to the availability of funds, a member may qualify for full tuition assistance for up to three years.

SB 530 authorizes the Oklahoma Veterans Commission to establish a private, non-profit, charitable organization known as the State of Oklahoma Veterans Foundation. The foundation will solicit, manage, and expend contributions of money, property, and services to support the commission and the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. The foundation is not a public body and may receive contributions from any public or private source. The department is authorized to create the foundation's board. The foundation will make all of its

financial records and documents, except privileged and confidential information, available to auditors.

HB 2836 creates the Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act, which establishes guidelines for individuals and businesses providing compensated services related to veterans' benefits. The measure:

- Prohibits someone from receiving a fee for referring a veteran to another entity for help with their veteran-related benefits;
- Prohibits someone from charging a veteran for help with a benefits claim if the claim is filed within one year of leaving active duty unless the veteran signs a waiver;
- Requires advisors to increase a veteran's benefits to be paid; and
- Requires advisors to provide a specific disclosure before consulting on veterans' benefits matters. ■

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