

Senate Journal

First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Legislature of the State of Oklahoma

Fifty-fifth Legislative Day, Monday, May 12, 2025

The Senate was called to order by Senator Haste.

Roll Call:

Present: Alvord, Bergstrom, Boren, Brooks, Bullard, Burns, Coleman, Daniels, Deevers, Dossett, Frix, Gillespie, Gollihare, Goodwin, Green, Grellner, Guthrie, Hall, Hamilton, Haste, Hicks, Hines, Howard, Jech, Jett, Kern, Kirt, Mann, McIntosh, Murdock, Nice, Paxton, Pederson, Prieto, Pugh, Rader, Reinhardt, Rosino, Sacchieri, Seifried, Standridge, Stanley, Stewart, Thompson, Weaver and Wingard.—46.

Excused: Woods.—1.

Vacancy: District 8.—1.

Senator Haste declared a quorum present.

The prayer was offered by Senator Todd Gollihare.

REPORT OF ENGROSSED AND ENROLLED MEASURES

SBs 208, 368, 480 and 491 were each correctly enrolled, properly signed and ordered transmitted to the Honorable House for signature of the Speaker.

SR 21 was correctly enrolled, properly signed and ordered transmitted to the Secretary of State.

HBs 1075, 1087, 1096, 1138, 1282, 1421, 1422, 1576, 1607, 1727, 1728, 1808, 1955, 2011, 2013, 2118, 2136, 2147, 2155, 2160, 2257, 2258, 2260, 2298, 2565, 2584, 2622, 2645 and 2646 were each correctly engrossed and, together with engrossed SAs, properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE
HAs TO SENATE BILLS**

Advising passage of and returning the following engrossed bills as amended:

SB 20 - Remove Representative Banning as principal House author and substitute with Representative Wilk, coauthored by Representatives Banning, Sneed, Adams, Boles, West (Kevin), Lay, Eaves, Staires, Woolley, Manger, Steagall, Gann, Sterling, Hildebrant, and Hill; Remove Senator Guthrie as principal Senate author and substitute with Senator Sacchieri, coauthored by Senators Guthrie, Standridge, and Frix

SB 32 - coauthored by Representative Manger

SB 331

SB 453

SB 632 - coauthored by Representative Duel

SB 641 - coauthored by Representative Hill

SB 642 - coauthored by Representative Duel

SB 676 - coauthored by Representatives Pittman, West (Tammy), Hefner, and Townley

SB 688

SB 697 - Remove Representative Marti as principal House author and substitute with Representative Turner

SB 711 - coauthored by Representatives Provenzano, Waldron, Ranson, Deck, and Menz

SB 1039

SB 1054 - (Emergency Failed) Remove Lowe (Jason) as principal House author and substitute with Representative Munson, coauthored by Representative Stewart

SB 1067

House amendments were read on the above-numbered bills.

PENDING CONSIDERATION OF HAs

HAs to SBs 32, 85, 209, 647, 687, 840, 893, 997 and 1054 were rejected upon motion of Senator Gollihare, conference requested, and Senate conferees to be named later.

SCs NAMED

Upon motion of Senator Daniels, Senate conferees were appointed as follows:

SB 31 – GCCA

SB 50 – GCCA

SB 109 – Stanley, Coleman, Hall, Rader, Jech, Hicks

SB 130 – GCCA

SB 132 – Burns, Green, Woods, Rader, Thompson, Boren

SB 146 – Murdock, Weaver, Hamilton, Kern, Jech, Brooks

SB 176 – Dossett, Coleman, Alvord, Weaver, Standridge, Mann

SB 951 – Murdock, Pugh, Seifried, Rader, Sacchieri, Dossett

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Advising the Honorable Senate that the House of Representatives is ready to convene in Joint Session.

Senator Daniels moved that the Senate join the House of Representatives in Joint Session, and that upon adjournment of the Joint Session, and when the clerk's desk is clear, the Senate stand adjourned to convene Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., which motion prevailed.

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JOINT SESSION

The Fifth Joint Session of the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Legislature was called to order by the President of the Senate, Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell.

Senator Daniels moved that the attendance roll call of the Senate be considered the attendance roll call of the Senate in Joint Session, which motion was declared adopted.

Representative West (Josh) moved that the attendance roll call of the House of Representatives be considered the attendance roll call of the House in Joint Session, which motion was declared adopted.

President Pinnell declared quorums of the Senate and House present and Joint Session duly assembled.

The invocation was offered by Tommy Howell, Chaplain of the Oklahoma Veterans Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nadine Lewis, Vice Chair of the Oklahoma Veterans Council followed by the National Anthem sung by Amy Stoker.

Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell, President Pro Tempore Paxton and Speaker Hilbert addressed the Joint Session.

Pete Peterson, Chairman of the Oklahoma Veterans Council, introduced Senator Brenda Stanley, Chair of the Senate Veterans and Military Affairs committee. Senator Stanley addressed the Joint Session.

Chairman Peterson introduced Representative David Smith, Chair of the House Veterans and Military Affairs committee. Representative Smith addressed the Joint Session. Vice Chair Nadine Smith introduced Senator Julia Kirt as Senator of the Year and Representative David Smith as Representative of the Year.

Chairman Peterson addressed the Joint Session and recognized veterans serving in the Oklahoma Legislature.

The benediction was offered by Chaplin Tommy Howell.

Upon motion of Representative West (Josh), the Joint Session was ordered dissolved at the hour of 3:00 p.m.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

Advising fourth reading of and returning Enrolled **SBs 208, 368, 480 and 491.**

The above-numbered enrolled measures were referred to the Governor.

Advising fourth reading of and transmitting for signature Enrolled **HBs 1466, 1497, 1666, 1996, 2048, 2052, 2103, 2131, 2619, 2673 and 2818.**

The above-numbered enrolled measures were, after fourth reading, properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

Advising the Honorable Senate that the Speaker has announced the following House Members as conferees on the General Conference Committee on Appropriations.

Caldwell (Trey), Chair
Kane, Vice-Chair

Bashore	Manger
Bennett	Miller
Blancett	Munson
Boles	Newton
Burns	Osburn

Caldwell (Chad)	Pae
Fetgatter	Pfeiffer
Ford	Provenzano
Fugate	Ranson
Grego	Sterling
Hill	Stinson
Kendrix	Strom
Kerbs	West (Josh)
Lawson	West (Kevin)
Luttrell	West (Tammy)

Speaker Hilbert and Speaker Pro Tempore Moore are ex-officio voting members of the General Conference Committee on Appropriations.

CHANGE IN AUTHORS/COAUTHORS

The following measures were authored/coauthored:

SB 61 - Coauthored by Senator Green

SB 789 - Remove as coauthor Senator Kern

Coauthored by Representative Kelley

SCR 8 - Remove as coauthor Senator Haste

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Advising his approval May 8, 2025, of Enrolled **SBs 553, 630, 681 and 806.**

Advising his veto May 8, 2025, of Enrolled **SBs 631, 837 and 870.**

The veto messages read as follows:

May 8, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE
SIXTIETH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 631:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 631.

Senate Bill 631 would add the crime of discharging a firearm at or into a building to the list of offenses requiring 85% of a sentence to be served before becoming parole eligible—even when no one is inside or harmed. While this is potentially serious conduct, it differs fundamentally from crimes like murder, rape, or lewd molestation of a child, which justify the 85% rule because they directly threaten or take human life.

Oklahoma already punishes discharging a firearm at or into a building as a felony with up to twenty years in prison. Mandating 85% of time for cases that may involve no victim senselessly increases the burden on our criminal justice system, raises incarceration costs, and limits opportunity for reform.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 631.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 8, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE
SIXTIETH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 837:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 837.

The Legislature's overzealous commitment to vanity license plates has resulted in a bloated catalogue full of taxpayer-funded advertisements for special interest groups. The legislation allows for a fee increase on a seemingly existing license plate, but there is no Oklahoma City Zoo license plate currently available.

It's bananas that our Legislature has time to dedicate to creating more novelty license plates but doesn't have the time to pass tax cuts. The Legislature should stop monkeying around and address the elephant in the room. It's time to boa up and pass tax cuts.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 837.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 8, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 870:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 870.

While I am supportive of protecting vulnerable children, this bill is too broad and leaves many terms undefined. Even law enforcement believe this bill is so vague it could lead to overcriminalization. There is already a failure to report statute, but it requires that the violator knew of misconduct and *chose* not to report. On the other hand, this bill criminalizes people who suspect – even when they don’t really know if a crime has been committed – and do not report.

This bill may unintentionally discourage volunteers and employees from serving, out of concern that they could face prosecution for not being sufficiently vigilant in identifying potential misconduct. I would encourage the legislature to clarify the above, expand it to more than just OJA and get it to my desk to better protect Oklahoma children without the ambiguity.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 870.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

Advising his approval May 9, 2025, of Enrolled **SBs 515, 690, 987, 1066, 1073 and 1076.**

Advising that on May 9, 2025, Governor’s messages were received on **SBs 111, 301, 364, 398, 586, 634, 831, 861, 925 and 957** and were filed with the Secretary of State.

Advising his veto May 9, 2025, of Enrolled **SBs 522, 875, 1014 and 1050.**

The veto messages read as follows:

May 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 522:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 522.

This bill would require the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority Executive Advisory Council to organize a special task force. This is like holding a meeting to schedule a meeting about meetings. Creating yet another advisory group is bureaucracy dressed up as productivity. We don't need more panels, roundtables, or reports that end up collecting dust. We need action, leadership, and real solutions.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 522.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
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SIXTIETH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 875:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 875.

This bill would mandate the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) to impose steep, additional penalties on contracted entities that fail to meet existing minimum spending thresholds for primary care services. It's unclear why legislation is necessary for what seems to be a contractual issue already within the OHCA's and healthcare providers' purview.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 875.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 1014:

Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 1014.

I agree with the premise that we should prefer local Oklahoma companies, all else equal, but this is already allowed under the law as localities *may* give those companies preferential treatment. This bill would take away flexibility in the bidding process. We should continue to allow localities flexibility so that they can pick companies who can give them the best services for the price.

If this bill becomes law it would reduce competition and qualified bidders and ultimately hurt consumers.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1014.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 1050:

Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 1050.

This bill undermines the ability of insurers to detect waste, fraud, and abuse and recover fraudulent or improper payments, which will drive up costs across the system. Oklahoma families are already burdened by rising health care premiums. We should not be adopting policies that increase those costs further.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1050.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

Advising his veto May 10, 2025, of Enrolled SBs 424, 694, 773, 924 and 1089.

The veto messages read as follows:

May 10, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 424:

Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 424.

I vetoed a nearly identical bill in 2023. Like its predecessor, this requires the State Department of Health to create a certification program for community health workers – another license and more government intervention.

While these workers offer important services I believe decisions about employing them should be left to private employers, not mandated through government expansion.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 424.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 10, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 694:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 694.

The current municipality annexation and detachment law is fine how it is—it rightly requires approval from three-fourths (3/4) of registered voters and property owners in the area. This bill would block detachment even with that support, undermining local democracy and inviting unnecessary interference from the Capitol.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 694.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 10, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
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SIXTIETH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 773:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 773.

Oklahoma statute already gives the Attorney General authority to go after bad actors in the PBM space. This bill hands additional power to an Attorney General who has shown again and again that he will abuse it. To date, he has used his office to sue agricultural farmers, tech companies and other Oklahoma businesses for political gain.

After increasing his budget 68% since taking office, and asking for another 204% increase for next year, the Attorney General is making another attempt to grow his office and expand his authority. Senate Bill 773 gives the AG new tools to go after more industries and keep the fines and fees levied on them, without meaningful oversight or checks on his actions. This bill gives him a financial incentive to sue people.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 773.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 10, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 924:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 924.

This bill would allow the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to alter the administrative appeals filing process in a way that creates uncertainty for the people and businesses they serve. This language is incongruous with the stated intention of the bill, and its operative terms are undefined in the statute. Administrative appeals for unemployment should be transparent and straightforward and allow both the citizen and employer to know what is expected without needing a law degree. In short, this language would create ambiguity for both the Commission and the citizens it intends to serve.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 924.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

May 10, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
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ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 1089:

Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 1089.

While Senate Bill 1089 is well-intended, I am concerned that it shifts competency restoration decisions from qualified clinicians to judges and attorneys, which will result in worse outcomes for Oklahomans and higher burdens on taxpayers.

Additionally, many of the concerns raised by this bill have already been addressed in the *Briggs v. Friesen* consent decree, which was agreed to by the plaintiffs, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Attorney General, and the Legislature. I'm concerned this bill would unnecessarily increase the Department's exposure to legal liability.

I encourage the Legislature and the Department to continue collaborating in good faith to develop mutually agreeable legislation that more effectively addresses the underlying concerns driving this proposal.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1089.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma
/s/ Kevin Stitt

Advising that on May 12, 2025, in accordance with Article VI, Section 11, of the Oklahoma Constitution, **SBs 56, 135, 300, 336, 405, 452, 523, 541, 730, 752, 777, 813, 929, 981, 1019 and 1108** have become law without the Governor's signature.

Pursuant to the Daniels motion, the Senate adjourned at 2:05 p.m. to meet Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.