ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 171

By: Weedn of the Senate

and

Beutler of the House

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 156, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 307, O.S.L. 1992 (47 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 156), which relates to purchase of certain vehicles; authorizing the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to acquire certain vehicles; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 156, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 307, O.S.L. 1992 (47 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 156), is amended to read as follows:

Section 156. A. Unless otherwise provided for by law, no state board, commission, department, institution, official, or employee, except the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of Corrections, the State Department of Education, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Transportation Commission, the Department of Agriculture, the State Department of Health, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Oklahoma Tourism and

Recreation Department, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Department of Mines shall purchase any passenger automobile or bus with public funds.

B. The Oklahoma School for the Deaf at Sulphur, the Oklahoma School for the Blind at Muskogee, and any state institution of higher education may purchase, own, or keep if now owned, or acquire by lease or gift, and use and maintain such station wagons, automobiles, trucks, or buses as are reasonably necessary for the implementation of the educational programs of said institutions. No bus operated, owned, or used by such educational institutions shall be permitted to carry any person other than students, faculty members, employees, or volunteers of such institutions. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit the operation of intracampus buses or buses routed directly between portions of the campus of any institution not adjacent to each other, nor to prohibit the collection of fares from such students, faculty members, or employees of such institutions, sufficient in amount to cover the reasonable cost of such transportation.

C. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Oklahoma Veterans Centers may own and maintain such passenger vehicles as those institutions have acquired prior to May 1, 1981.

D. The use of station wagons, automobiles, and buses, other than as provided for in this section, shall be permitted only upon written request for such use by heads of departments of the institution, approved in writing by the president of said institution or by some administrative official of said institution authorized by the president to grant said approval. Such use shall be permitted only for official institutional business or activities connected therewith. Such use shall be subject to the provisions of

Sections 156.1 and 159.7 of this title forbidding personal use of such vehicles, and to the penalties therein declared.

E. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, as provided for in Section 156.1 of this title.

F. For the purpose of this section and Section 156.3 of this title, a station wagon is classified as a passenger automobile and may not be purchased solely for the use of transporting property. Such vehicles shall include, but not be limited to, all vehicles which have no separate luggage compartment or trunk but which do not have open beds, whether the same are called station wagons, vans, suburbans, town and country, blazers, or any other names. All state boards, commissions, departments, and institutions may own and maintain station wagons purchased solely for the purpose of transporting property if acquired prior to July 1, 1985.

G. The provisions of this section and Section 156.1 of this title shall not apply to public officials who are statewide elected commissioners.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1995.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 27th day of February, 1995.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 1995.

Speaker of the House of Representatives