

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1926

By: Ferguson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public officers; amending 11 O.S. 1991, Section 8-113, which relates to certain officers and employees prohibited from conducting certain business with municipality; providing exception for certain officers, directors or employees of financial institutions; amending 62 O.S. 1991, Section 371, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 1992 (62 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 371), which relates to contracts with certain officers; providing exception for certain officers, directors or employees of financial institutions; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 1991, Section 8-113, is amended to read as follows:

Section 8-113. A. Except as otherwise provided by this section, no municipal officer or employee, or any business in which ~~said~~ the officer, employee, or spouse of the officer or employee has a proprietary interest, shall engage in:

1. Selling, buying, or leasing property, real or personal, to or from the municipality;

2. Contracting with the municipality; or

3. Buying or bartering for or otherwise engaging in any manner in the acquisition of any bonds, warrants, or other evidence of indebtedness of the municipality.

B. For purposes of this section, "employee" means any person who is employed by a municipality more than ten (10) hours in a week for more than thirteen (13) consecutive weeks and who enters into, recommends or participates in the decision to enter into any transaction described in subsection A of this section. Provided that any person who receives wages, reimbursement for expenses, or emoluments of any kind from a municipality, any spouse of such person, or any business in which such person or spouse has a proprietary interest shall not buy or otherwise become interested in the transfer of any surplus property of a municipality or a public trust of which the municipality is beneficiary unless ~~such~~ the surplus property is offered for sale to the public after notice of the sale is published.

C. For purposes of this section, "proprietary interest" means ownership of more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the business or of the stock therein or any percentage which constitutes a controlling interest but shall not include any such interest held by a blind trust.

D. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a municipal officer or spouse of the officer who is also an officer, director or employee of a financial institution. However, the municipal officer or spouse of the officer shall abstain from voting on any matter between the municipality and the financial institution by which the municipal officer or spouse of an officer is employed.

E. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any transaction entered into in violation of the provisions of this section is void. Any member of a governing body who approves any transaction in violation

of the provisions of this section shall be held personally liable for the amount of said transaction.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 1991, Section 371, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 1992 (62 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 371), is amended to read as follows:

Section 371. A. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no board of county commissioners, nor city council, nor board of trustees of any town, nor any district board of any school district in this state, nor any board of any local subdivision of this state shall make any contract with any of its members, or in which any of its members shall be directly or indirectly interested; ~~and all~~ All contracts made in violation of this section shall be wholly void.

~~Provided that for~~ For the purposes of this section ~~the:~~

1. The depositing of any funds in a bank or other depository shall not be considered the making of a contract. ~~Provided that for purposes of this section any;~~

2. Any contract with a qualified nonprofit Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) organization, except for contracts paying salaries or expenses or except a contract entered into by a school district involving the counseling or instruction of students or staff, shall not be considered the making of a contract. ~~Provided further that for the purposes of this section monthly;~~

3. Monthly billings submitted to any county or local subdivision of the state for public utility companies, electric cooperatives or telephone companies, whose services are regulated by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, or billings of said utility companies, electric cooperatives or telephone companies pertaining to installations or changes in service, where tariffs for such charges or billings by ~~said~~ the companies are on file with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, shall not be considered the making of a contract. ~~Provided further that the;~~

4. The governing board of an area vocational-technical school district may enter into a contract for the area vocational-technical school district to provide training for a company, individual, or business concern by which a member of the board is employed. A board member shall abstain from voting on any such contract between the area vocational-technical school district board and the company, individual, or business concern by which the member is employed; and

5. An officer of a municipality may serve as an officer, director or employee of a financial institution where the financial institution serves as the trustee of any bond issues of the municipality or the financial institution has purchased bonds from an issuance of the municipality. However, the officer of the municipality shall abstain from voting on any such matter between the municipality and the financial institution by which the officer is employed.

B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to those municipal officers who are subject to Section 8-113 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 1995.

45-1-6183

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