

SHORT TITLE: Tourism and recreation; changing name of tourist information centers to welcome centers; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

SENATE BILL NO. 141

By: Littlefield

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to tourism and recreation; amending Section 4, Chapter 350, O.S.L. 1992 (62 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 57.303), which relates to amount and purpose of revenue bonds; changing name of certain center; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Sections 1813 and 1829.2, which relate to information centers; changing name to welcome center; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 4, Chapter 350, O.S.L. 1992 (62 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 57.303), is amended to read as follows:

Section 57.303 A. The Commission acting for and on behalf of the State of Oklahoma shall be the agency by and through which the State of Oklahoma shall incur indebtedness in the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$350,000,000.00) as principal for the purpose of restoring and modernizing the state's infrastructure, for constructing new buildings and other capital improvements, and for equipping, remodeling, modernizing and repairing any and all existing buildings and capital improvements, and purchase of land, equipment and furnishings necessary for such new construction or remodeling, including any costs associated with the issuance of the indebtedness, as follows:

1. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for expenditure as follows:

- a. University of Oklahoma - Norman Campus \$22,731,000.00
- b. University of Oklahoma - Health Sciences Center
\$22,400,000.00
- c. Oklahoma State University - Stillwater Campus
\$22,328,000.00
- d. Oklahoma State University - Agriculture Experiment
Station \$4,000,000.00
- e. Oklahoma State University - Veterinary Medicine
\$5,075,000.00
- f. Oklahoma State University - Technical Branch -
Okmulgee \$4,118,000.00
- g. Oklahoma State University - Technical Branch -
Oklahoma City \$3,868,000.00
- h. Oklahoma State University - College of Osteopathic
Medicine \$3,750,400.00
- i. University of Central Oklahoma \$7,765,106.00
- j. East Central University \$5,869,000.00
- k. Northeastern State University \$8,813,400.00
- l. Northwestern Oklahoma State University \$2,860,000.00
- m. Southeastern Oklahoma State University \$5,586,900.00
- n. Southwestern Oklahoma State University - Weatherford
Campus \$6,297,500.00
- o. Southwestern Oklahoma State University - Sayre Campus
\$300,000.00
- p. Cameron University \$10,200,000.00
- q. Langston University \$2,842,500.00
- r. Oklahoma Panhandle State University \$2,016,500.00
- s. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma \$3,104,376.00
- t. University Center at Tulsa \$15,000,000.00
- u. Carl Albert State College \$3,021,000.00

v.	Connors State College	\$2,055,100.00
w.	Eastern Oklahoma State College	\$2,007,600.00
x.	Murray State College	\$2,045,000.00
y.	Northeastern Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College	\$2,410,400.00
z.	Northern Oklahoma College	\$1,206,500.00
aa.	Oklahoma City Community College	\$6,152,100.00
bb.	Redlands Community College	\$2,003,900.00
cc.	Rogers State College	\$5,035,100.00
dd.	Rose State College	\$6,158,600.00
ee.	Seminole Junior College	\$2,125,924.00
ff.	Tulsa Junior College	\$22,333,800.00
gg.	Western Oklahoma State College	\$2,500,000.00
hh.	Enid Higher Education Program	\$619,123.00
ii.	Enid Higher Education Program - this allocation is contingent upon a \$2,200,000.00 match by the local community	\$1,980,877.00
jj.	Ardmore Higher Education Program	\$619,123.00
kk.	Muskogee Higher Education Program	\$619,123.00
ll.	Idabel Higher Education Program	\$619,123.00
mm.	Tulsa Medical Center debt retirement	\$6,600,000.00
nn.	Food Processing Research Center - Stillwater	\$14,000,000.00
oo.	Natural History Museum - Norman	\$15,000,000.00
2.	State Department of Vocational and Technical Education for expenditure as follows:	
a.	Instructional equipment for area schools, including inmate training facilities	\$2,300,000.00
b.	Mid-Del Vo-Tech	\$200,000.00
c.	Okmulgee County AVTS	\$3,200,000.00
d.	Southwest AVTS	\$1,500,000.00
e.	Wes Watkins AVTS	\$1,000,000.00

- f. Western Oklahoma AVTS \$2,000,000.00
- 3. Oklahoma Water Resources Board \$5,700,000.00
- 4. Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department for the following purposes: roads, park improvements, sewage treatment, facility rehab, equipment, trails, park visitor centers, ~~tourism information~~ welcome centers, Will Rogers Museum and other museums, Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame and Quartz Mountain Arts and Conference Center \$18,000,000.00
- 5. Oklahoma Historical Society \$1,700,000.00
- 6. Department of Human Services \$5,300,000.00
- 7. Department of Corrections for the following purposes: drug offender work camps and meat processing facility at Jackie Brannon \$6,500,000.00
- 8. State Department of Health \$7,500,000.00
- 9. State Department of Agriculture for purposes of dry fire hydrants and rural fire equipment \$1,000,000.00
- 10. Department of Central Services \$4,300,000.00
- 11. Oklahoma Military Department \$800,000.00
- 12. Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics. Said amount shall not be used for purposes of subsection D of Section 168.3 of Title 73 of the Oklahoma Statutes \$4,500,000.00
- 13. Office of State Finance for expenditure for telecommunications as recommended by the State Data Processing and Telecommunications Advisory Committee \$14,000,000.00
- 14. Oklahoma Department of Libraries for expenditure for matching grant program for handicapped access \$500,000.00
- 15. Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs for the following purposes: New facility at Norman, computer programming-mapper system, and improvements at the facilities at Ardmore, Sulphur, Talihina, Clinton, Claremore and Okmulgee \$16,432,500.00

16. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
\$6,400,000.00

If the full amount of funding for any project specified in this subsection is not necessary for provision of such project, any remaining available funds shall be allocated by the Commission to the full funding of other projects listed in this subsection or to the Oklahoma Building Bonds of 1992 Fund for appropriation by the Legislature for other capital projects.

B. The Commission, acting for and on behalf of the State of Oklahoma, shall issue, sell and deliver as hereinafter provided "Oklahoma Building Bonds of 1992" in a total principal amount of Three Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$350,000,000.00). It is hereby expressly provided and pledged for the benefit of the purchasers, owners and holders of said bonds that the tax on each package of cigarettes levied by Section 302 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, constituting the remainder of revenue available from the revenues lawfully levied and collected by the State of Oklahoma on the sale of cigarettes not already committed to other obligations of the State of Oklahoma, and the tax levy on cigarettes pursuant to Sections 302-2 and 302-4 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or so much as may be necessary, shall be devoted irrevocably to the payment and discharge of the interest on, and the principal of, the bonds issued hereunder as the same become due, and to create an adequate reserve to assure such payments when due; and said revenues shall be, and hereby are, irrevocably pledged for such purposes.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 1813, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1813. A. The Division of Travel and Tourism shall:

1. Encourage the orderly growth and development of tourism to and within the state by preparing and maintaining a comprehensive five-year travel development master plan and supporting marketing plan jointly with the private sector.

2. Organize, coordinate and conduct state, regional, national and international marketing programs to create and perpetuate a responsible and accurate image of the state and its natural, cultural, historical, recreational attractions and events in order to increase the number of domestic and international travelers to Oklahoma.

3. Advise and provide technical assistance to the planning, development and execution of promotional programs for Oklahoma's city, county and regional tourism promotion organizations with the purpose of coordinating those programs with the Division's promotional programs.

4. Create, develop, produce, distribute, implement and evaluate public information programs, including publicity, brochures, public relations activities, film and slide production, still and audio visual photography, public service programs, advertising and other informational aids for the promotion of tourism to the general public and the media.

5. Cooperate and participate with neighboring states and the federal government to promote travel to the regional states from domestic and international markets.

6. Coordinate, advise and provide technical assistance to cities, counties and regional organizations in the promotion and solicitation of group meetings, conferences and conventions to be held within the state.

7. Develop timely research data to measure traveler volume and economic impact, determine traveler profiles, evaluate and analyze market and advertising effectiveness.

8. Plan, coordinate and conduct statewide conferences, seminars and workshops to inform and educate representatives from the state's public and private sector regarding programs and travel trends which affect the tourism industry.

9. Plan, construct, lease, operate and maintain ~~traveler information~~ welcome centers and a central fulfillment warehouse for the purpose of distributing information on the state's tourism facilities, services and opportunities.

10. Provide organization and coordination assistance to public and private tourism promotion organizations for participation in cooperative advertising and promotion opportunities with the Division, including travel trade marketplaces, consumer sport, travel and recreation shows within and outside the state.

11. Administer matching grant programs to multicounty organizations which promote travel and tourism to their area of the state that are in concert and coordinated with the statewide travel Marketing Plan.

12. Develop, produce and publish the Oklahoma Today magazine for the purpose of promoting the state's image in order to stimulate travel; promote the sale of the magazine and its services; and to develop, produce, promote and sell ancillary products.

13. Assist other Divisions within the Department and, where possible, assist other state agencies with special tourism promotion projects, development of professional training opportunities and other projects which provide services to travelers.

14. Issue tour bus permits in this state as provided in Sections 1171 and 1172 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. The Division may facilitate travel to and within the state by encouraging development of a tourism industry infrastructure which provides investment incentives to tourism businesses and tourism product development.

C. The Division may contract with professionally qualified companies and/or individuals for services to assist in the development and production of advertising, promotion, publicity and public relations programs, primary and secondary research data

collection including analysis of state travel marketing programs and economic impact information.

D. The Division may obligate and expend funds for marketing, advertising, promotion, research and information disseminating activities in accordance with the laws of this state governing such activities.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 1829.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1829.2 Effective July 1, 1991, all current and future positions of the Department of Tourism and Recreation which are assigned to the ~~Tourism Information~~ Welcome Center in the State Capitol Building shall become classified and subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration except as provided in Section ~~840-8~~ 840-5.5 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

Effective July 1, 1991, all incumbent employees of the Department of Tourism and Recreation who are assigned to the ~~Tourism Information~~ Welcome Center in the State Capitol Building shall become subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration and shall be classified without regard to status or examinations. Such employee shall be granted permanent status in the class of positions to which the employee's position is allocated by the Office of Personnel Management.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1995.

45-1-0379

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