

SB 1900

Senate Bill No. 1900  
As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 1900 - By: BRANAN of the Senate and THOMPSON of the House.

[ roads, bridges and ferries - turnpikes - creating exemption - emergency ]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2001, Section 1705, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 150, O.S.L. 2006 (69 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 1705), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1705. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby authorized and empowered:

(a) To adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and conduct of its business.

(b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(c) To maintain an office at such place or places within the state as it may designate.

(d) To sue and be sued in contract, reverse condemnation, equity, mandamus and similar actions in its own name, plead and be impleaded; provided, that any and all actions at law or in equity against the Authority shall be brought in the county in which the principal office of the Authority shall be located, or in the county

1 of the residence of the plaintiff, or the county where the cause of  
2 action arose. All privileges granted to the Authority and duties  
3 enjoined upon the Authority by the provisions of Sections 1701  
4 through 1734 of this title may be enforced in a court of competent  
5 jurisdiction in an action in mandamus.

6 (e) To construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike  
7 projects and highways, with their access and connecting roads, at  
8 such locations and on such routes as it shall determine to be  
9 feasible and economically sound; provided, that until specifically  
10 authorized by the Legislature, the Authority shall be authorized to  
11 construct and operate toll turnpikes only at the following  
12 locations:

13 (1) The Turner Turnpike between Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

14 (2) The Southwestern (H.E. Bailey) Turnpike between Oklahoma  
15 City and Wichita Falls, Texas.

16 (3) The Northeastern (Will Rogers) Turnpike between Tulsa and  
17 Joplin, Missouri.

18 (4) The Eastern (Indian Nation) Turnpike between Tulsa and  
19 Paris, Texas, including all or any part thereof between McAlester  
20 and the Red River south of Hugo.

21 (5) The Cimarron Turnpike between Tulsa and Interstate Highway  
22 35 north of Perry, including a connection to Stillwater.

1           (6) The Muskogee Turnpike between Broken Arrow and Interstate  
2 Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls.

3           (7) All or any part of an extension of the Muskogee Turnpike,  
4 beginning at a point on Interstate Highway 40 near the present south  
5 terminus of the Muskogee Turnpike, and extending in a southeasterly  
6 direction on an alignment near Stigler, Poteau and Heavener to the  
7 vicinity of the Arkansas State Line to furnish access to Hot  
8 Springs, Texarkana, Shreveport and New Orleans.

9           (8) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of  
10 Luther, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of the intersection of State  
11 Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike in Creek County, Oklahoma, or in the  
12 vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike  
13 or U.S. Highway 66 in Creek County, Oklahoma, from any monies  
14 available to the Authority.

15           (9) Add on the Will Rogers Turnpike a northbound automatic  
16 tollgate onto State Highway 28 and a southbound on-ramp from State  
17 Highway 28.

18           (10) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
19 vicinity of Duncan extending east to the vicinity of the City of  
20 Davis, and extending in a northeasterly direction, by way of the  
21 vicinity of the City of Ada, to a connection in the vicinity of  
22 Henryetta or in the vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 48

1 and Interstate 40; and a turnpike or any part or parts thereof from  
2 the vicinity of Snyder extending north to the vicinity of Woodward.

3 (11) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a  
4 point in the vicinity of Ponca City, or at a point on the Kansas-  
5 Oklahoma state boundary line east of the Arkansas River and west of  
6 the point where Oklahoma State Highway No. 18 intersects said state  
7 boundary line, and extending in a southeasterly direction to a  
8 connection with the Tulsa Urban Expressway System in the general  
9 area of the Port of Catoosa.

10 (12) All or any part of an Oklahoma City toll expressway system  
11 connecting the residential, industrial and State Capitol Complex in  
12 the north part of Oklahoma City with the residential, industrial and  
13 Will Rogers World Airport Complex in the south and southwest parts  
14 of Oklahoma City.

15 (13) A turnpike (The Industrial Parkway) or any part or parts  
16 thereof beginning at a point on the Oklahoma-Kansas state boundary  
17 line between the point where U.S. Highway 66 intersects the boundary  
18 line and the northeast corner of Oklahoma and ending by means of a  
19 connection or connections with Shreveport, Louisiana, and Houston,  
20 Texas, in southeastern Oklahoma and at no point to exceed thirty  
21 (30) miles west of the Missouri or Arkansas border.

1           (14) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
2 vicinity of Velma or County Line to a point intersecting with  
3 Interstate 35 in the area south of Davis.

4           (15) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
5 vicinity of Watonga and extending south and/or east to the vicinity  
6 of north and/or west Oklahoma City.

7           (16) A tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike near the  
8 intersection of State Highway 137 and the Will Rogers Turnpike,  
9 located south of Quapaw.

10          (17) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of  
11 Porter, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike in the  
12 vicinity of Adair, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in  
13 the vicinity of Luther, Oklahoma, and a tollgate on the H.E. Bailey  
14 Turnpike at Elgin, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the  
15 Authority.

16          (18) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of  
17 Wellston, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

18          (19) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of  
19 Brushy Mountain, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of Elm Grove,  
20 Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

21          (20) All or any part of an Oklahoma City Outer Loop expressway  
22 system beginning in the vicinity of I-35 and the Turner Turnpike and  
23 extending west into Canadian County and then south to I-40; and then

1 south and east to I-35 in the vicinity of Moore and Norman; and then  
2 extending east and north to I-40 east of Tinker Field; and then  
3 extending north to the Turner Turnpike to complete the Outer Loop.

4 (21) All or any part of the Tulsa south bypass expressway  
5 system beginning in the vicinity of the Turner Turnpike near Sapulpa  
6 and extending south and east to U.S. 75 in the vicinity of 96th  
7 Street to 121st Street; and then east across the Arkansas River to a  
8 connection with the Mingo Valley Expressway; and then south and/or  
9 east to a point on the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line near 131st street  
10 south in the city of Broken Arrow.

11 (22) A new turnpike or any part thereof from near the west gate  
12 of the Will Rogers Turnpike south to the west end of south Tulsa  
13 Turnpike at the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line.

14 (23) A new turnpike or any parts thereof from the vicinity of  
15 the connection between State Highway 33 and U.S. 69 easterly to the  
16 Arkansas State Line.

17 (24) A four-lane extension of the Muskogee Turnpike from  
18 Interstate Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls to the Poteau vicinity.

19 (25) A new turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a  
20 point in the vicinity of northwest Tulsa, and extending in a  
21 northwesterly direction, by means of a connection or connections  
22 with the cities of Pawhuska and Newkirk, to a point intersecting in  
23 the vicinity of US Highway No. 77 and the Kansas State Line.

1           (26) A full access interchange on the Indian Nation Turnpike  
2 south of Interstate 40, in the vicinity of Henryetta, Oklahoma, and  
3 in the vicinity of the proposed theme park, museum or an industrial  
4 facility which qualifies for the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act,  
5 from any monies available to the Authority.

6           (27) A new turnpike beginning at a point directly west of the  
7 Arkansas line and four-laning Highway 70 from that point to the  
8 farthest western reach of Highway 70 creating a southern route  
9 through Oklahoma.

10          (28) A new turnpike and bridge or any parts thereof from a  
11 point in the vicinity of the city of Mustang southerly across the  
12 South Canadian River to the H.E. Bailey Turnpike in the vicinity of  
13 the city of Tuttle; and then easterly across the South Canadian  
14 River to a point in the vicinity of the city of Norman.

15          (29) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point  
16 in the vicinity of the city of Altus and extending in a  
17 northwesterly direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of  
18 Sayre.

19          (30) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point  
20 in the vicinity of the city of Enid and extending in a westerly  
21 direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of Woodward.

22          (31) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof at Fletcher,  
23 Oklahoma, in the vicinity of the Interstate 44 and State Highway 277

1 intersection. Any existing on- or off-ramp or any parts thereof in  
2 the vicinity of Fletcher, Oklahoma, shall not be removed and shall  
3 be maintained pursuant to Section 1701 et seq. of this title.

4 (32) A new bridge crossing the Arkansas River in the vicinity  
5 of South Yale Avenue and South Yale Place in Tulsa County. This  
6 project shall commence upon a determination by the Oklahoma  
7 Transportation Authority that such bridge shall be self-sufficient  
8 at some point over a thirty-year time period from the toll charges  
9 associated with the bridge project.

10 (33) An exit ramp or any parts thereof from the eastbound lane  
11 of the Turner Turnpike at 96th Street in Tulsa.

12 (34) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof on the Cimarron  
13 Turnpike in the vicinity of the northside of the Glencoe, Oklahoma,  
14 municipal limits.

15 All access roads, interchanges, or lead roads connecting such  
16 turnpikes with existing highways must be built by funds furnished by  
17 the Authority.

18 The minimum and maximum wages for the construction of the roads,  
19 highways and projects provided for in Sections 1701 through 1734 of  
20 this title shall be in accordance with the schedules of wages used  
21 or adopted by the Commission in construction of state highways.

22 The Authority is hereby authorized to enter into contracts or  
23 agreements with agencies and instrumentalities of other states or

1 the national government for construction, maintenance and operation  
2 of interstate turnpikes or highways.

3 The Authority is hereby required to construct and install  
4 automatic tollgates on the Will Rogers Turnpike at State Highway No.  
5 28 near Adair.

6 (f) To issue turnpike revenue bonds of the Authority, payable  
7 solely from revenues, including the revenues accruing to the trust  
8 fund created by Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title, for the  
9 purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any one or more  
10 turnpike projects. Provided that any bonds issued for the  
11 construction of the proposed turnpike referred to in subparagraphs  
12 (10), (20), (21) and (22) of paragraph (e) of this section shall be  
13 issued as one issue for all four of the proposed turnpikes and shall  
14 be financed, constructed and operated under one bond indenture.

15 (g) To fix and revise from time to time tolls for the use of  
16 any turnpike projects.

17 Any common carrier having authority at the time of opening any  
18 turnpike project to operate upon a highway approximately paralleling  
19 the turnpike project shall be granted without further showing  
20 authority to operate over the turnpike project to all municipalities  
21 which such carrier is serving at the time the turnpike project is  
22 opened to traffic. But nothing herein shall be construed as  
23 granting any new operation rights to any common carriers.

1 (h) To acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property  
2 in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties.

3 (i) To acquire in the name of the Authority by purchase or  
4 otherwise on such terms and conditions and in such manner as it may  
5 deem proper, or by exercise of the right of condemnation in manner  
6 hereinafter provided, such public or private lands, including public  
7 parks, playgrounds, or reservations, or parts thereof or rights  
8 therein, rights-of-way, property, rights, easements, and interests,  
9 as it may deem necessary for carrying out the provisions of Sections  
10 1701 through 1734 of this title; provided, that all public property  
11 damaged in carrying out the powers granted by Sections 1701 through  
12 1734 of this title shall be restored or repaired and placed in its  
13 original condition as nearly as practicable.

14 (j) To designate, except as is provided for herein, the  
15 location, and establish, limit and control such points of ingress to  
16 and egress from each turnpike project as may be necessary or  
17 desirable in the judgment of the Authority to insure the proper  
18 operation and maintenance of such project, and to prohibit entrance  
19 to such project from any point or points not so designated.

20 (k) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements  
21 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the  
22 execution of its powers, and to employ consulting engineers,  
23 attorneys, accountants, construction and financial experts,

1 superintendents, managers, and such other employees and agents as  
2 may be necessary in its judgment, and to fix their compensation;  
3 provided, that all such expenses shall be payable solely from the  
4 proceeds of turnpike revenue bonds issued under the provisions of  
5 Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title or from revenues; provided,  
6 further, no attorney employed by the Authority, nor any member of  
7 any law firm of which ~~he~~ the attorney may be connected, shall ever  
8 be paid any fee or compensation for any special or extraordinary  
9 services.

10 (l) To receive and accept from any federal agency grants for or  
11 in aid of the construction of any turnpike project, provided, the  
12 acceptance of such grants will not reduce the amount of federal aid  
13 for the construction, repair, or maintenance of farm-to-market roads  
14 and other highways and bridges in this state; and to receive and  
15 accept aid or contributions from any source of either money,  
16 property, labor, or other things of value, to be held, used, and  
17 applied only for the purposes for which such grants and  
18 contributions may be made.

19 (m) To adopt such rules, and to do any and all things necessary  
20 to comply with rules, regulations, or requirements of the Bureau of  
21 Public Roads, Multistate Economic Development Regional Commission,  
22 as defined in Sections 1151 through 1153, inclusive, of Title 74 of  
23 the Oklahoma Statutes, Ozarka Region Commission or any other federal

1 agency administering any law enacted by the Congress of the United  
2 States to aid or encourage the construction of highways.

3 (n) To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the  
4 powers expressly granted in Sections 1701 through 1734 of this  
5 title. The design standards for all paving shall comply with the  
6 design standards of the American Association of State Highway and  
7 Transportation Officials as modified by the Oklahoma Department of  
8 Transportation. All contracts for construction work on turnpike  
9 projects shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or bidders,  
10 after notice by publication in a newspaper published in the county  
11 where the work is to be done in two consecutive weekly issues of the  
12 newspaper. In all cases where more than eight (8) miles of  
13 construction is let at the same time and is not a surface treatment  
14 only project, such advertisement shall provide for bids on sections  
15 of the turnpike not to exceed eight (8) miles. If the project  
16 advertised is a surface treatment only project of more than twenty  
17 (20) miles of road, the advertisement shall provide for bids on  
18 sections of the road no longer than twenty (20) miles, as well as  
19 bids on the project as a whole. Subject to the following  
20 restrictions and limitations, the Authority shall, when contracting  
21 for construction work, divide such work into paving projects, bridge  
22 projects, including underpasses and overpasses, and earthmoving or  
23 miscellaneous projects, according to the type of work to be done.

1 Each project shall be let under a separate contract or contracts and  
2 no contract or project shall include more than one of such types of  
3 construction work. Each contract for construction work shall  
4 contain a provision that ninety percent (90%) of all labor employed  
5 on the project shall be residents of Oklahoma. However, contracts  
6 for bridges may include earthwork and structures for the approaches  
7 thereto.

8 (o) It shall be unlawful for any member, officer or employee of  
9 the Authority to transact with the Authority, either directly or  
10 indirectly, any business for profit of such member, officer, or  
11 employee; and any person, firm, or corporation knowingly  
12 participating therein shall be equally liable for violation of this  
13 provision.

14 The term "business for profit" shall include, but not be limited  
15 to, the acceptance or payment of any fee, commission, gift, or  
16 consideration to such member, officer, or employee.

17 Violation of this provision shall constitute a felony punishable  
18 by incarceration in the State Penitentiary for a term not to exceed  
19 five (5) years or a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars  
20 (\$500.00) and not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or  
21 both such imprisonment and fine.

22 (p) In the event of a national emergency, the Authority,  
23 subject to any vested rights or claims, may enter into contracts

1 with the federal government or any authorized agency thereof to  
2 allow the federal government or agency thereof to use such turnpikes  
3 partly or exclusively during the existence of such emergency,  
4 provided, that the federal government agrees in such contract to  
5 pay, during the term of such contract, an amount sufficient, when  
6 added to any tolls collected, to meet all operating and maintenance  
7 expenses, interest payments, and the minimum sinking fund and  
8 reserve requirements of the trust agreement for the turnpike covered  
9 by the contract.

10 (q) All meetings of the Authority shall be open public  
11 meetings, and all records shall be public records, except when  
12 considering personnel or litigation.

13 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2001, Section 1735, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1735. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
16 promotion of safety in the workplace is a legitimate public purpose.  
17 In order to establish a public employee benefit program to encourage  
18 safety in the workplace, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby  
19 directed to establish an on-the-job employee safety program which  
20 encourages work unit safety and reduces lost productivity and  
21 compensation costs. In order to promote job safety in work units  
22 with exceptional safety records, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is  
23 authorized to expend from monies available in the Oklahoma Turnpike

1 Authority General Fund so much thereof as may be necessary for the  
2 purpose of recognition awards for presentation to the members of  
3 work units or individual employees with exceptional safety records.  
4 Recognition awards shall consist of distinctive wearing apparel,  
5 service pins, U.S. Savings Bonds, or other appropriate awards, the  
6 value of which shall not exceed ~~One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)~~ Two  
7 Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per employee, which recognize the safety  
8 achievement of the work unit or individual employees.

9 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2001, Section 4017, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 Section 4017. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
12 promotion of safety in the workplace is a legitimate public purpose.  
13 In order to establish a public employee benefit program to encourage  
14 safety in the workplace, the Department of Transportation is hereby  
15 directed to establish an on-the-job employee safety program which  
16 encourages work unit safety and reduces lost productivity and  
17 compensation costs. In order to promote job safety in work units  
18 and provide recognition for work units with exceptional safety  
19 records, the Department of Transportation is authorized to expend  
20 from monies available in the State Highway Construction and  
21 Maintenance Fund so much thereof as may be necessary for the  
22 purchase of recognition awards for presentation to the members of  
23 work units or individual employees with exceptional safety records.

1 Recognition awards shall consist of distinctive wearing apparel,  
2 service pins, or U.S. Savings Bonds, the value of which shall not  
3 exceed ~~One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)~~ Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)  
4 per employee, which recognizes the safety achievement of the work  
5 unit or individual employees.

6 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
7 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
8 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
9 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

10 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-20-08 - DO  
11 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.