

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE BILL 1253

By: Roussetot

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to state government; recognizing the
8 status of certain Indian Tribes; stating certain
9 goal; granting tribal legislators immunity from
10 certain arrests during certain times; granting
11 immunity from arrest and questioning for certain
12 speech and debate; applying certain exemptions to
13 certain state law enforcement entities; providing for
14 codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1225.1 of Title 74, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. The State of Oklahoma recognizes the unique status of Indian
20 Tribes within the federal government and shall work in a spirit of
21 cooperation with all federally recognized Indian Tribes for the
22 benefit of both the State of Oklahoma and Tribal Governments.

23 B. In furtherance of the goal of cooperation as stated in
24 subsection A of this section, it is declared that any person who is
a member of the legislative body of a tribal government of a

1 federally recognized Indian Tribe in Oklahoma shall, except for
2 treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be granted immunity from
3 arrest during the time that the tribal legislative body in which the
4 person serves is in session and in going to or coming from a session
5 of the tribal legislature. The person shall also be granted
6 immunity from arrest or questioning in any other place for any
7 speech or debate entered into during a tribal legislative session.

8 C. The exemptions from arrest and questioning as set forth in
9 this section shall apply to an arrest or questioning by any state
10 law enforcement agency or entity or any employee of a state law
11 enforcement agency or entity.

12 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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