

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 SENATE BILL 1252

By: Sparks

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to roads, bridges and ferries;
8 stating legislative findings and declarations
9 relating to financing of public transportation
10 projects; authorizing public and private financing of
11 certain transportation projects; stating procedures
12 for review process; requiring proposal to the
13 Legislature; providing for codification; and
14 providing an effective date.

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 1500 of Title 69, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. The Legislature finds and declares that there is a critical
20 need for new and improved infrastructure in every facet of our
21 state's transportation structure, including all types of roads,
22 city, county, state and interstate, and railroads for passengers and
23 freight. All government entities tasked with the requirement to
24 construct and maintain our transportation systems have stretched
their available financial resources to the maximum limit. These
entities have been in a continuous struggle for decades to secure

1 funding necessary to improve and maintain our roads, bridges and
2 railways to a level that assures the citizens and visitors of our
3 state that their safety and welfare is a priority concern of our
4 government. Upon finding public needs are not currently being
5 satisfied by traditional methods of acquiring, constructing,
6 improving or maintaining our transportation facilities, the
7 Legislature hereby declares its intention to enhance public health,
8 safety, convenience, and welfare and increase residential,
9 agricultural, recreational, economic, commercial and industrial
10 opportunities found in our state by authorizing the various
11 government entities of this state to seek partnerships and
12 coalitions with private entities to develop innovative funding
13 methods that may result in the availability of transportation
14 facilities to the public in a more timely or less costly manner.

15 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
16 the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to accept proposals
17 for any public transportation project from any person, firm,
18 corporation, coalition or partnership arrangement of public and
19 private entities. Upon receipt of any such proposals, the Secretary
20 shall undertake a review process of the design concepts, financing,
21 and contracting arrangements. The Secretary is authorized to
22 establish a review process and may utilize the services of any state
23 agencies or employees as necessary to assist the Secretary in this
24 process. Upon completion of the review process, if the Secretary

1 determines a proposal to be consistent with the intention of this
2 act and of benefit to the citizens of this state, the Secretary
3 shall submit the proposal, along with a summary of the review
4 process to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker
5 of the House of Representatives. The Pro Tempore and the Speaker
6 shall submit the proposal in the form of a bill to be heard during
7 the next legislative session, in both the House and the Senate, and
8 if approved by each Chamber and the Governor, the proposal shall be
9 declared to be in the public interest and the project shall be
10 deemed approved and subject to all procedures and requirements as
11 otherwise provided by law.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2012.

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