

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 54th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2896
Version:	INT
Request Number:	9791
Author:	Rep. Morrisette
Date:	2/11/2014
Impact:	Potential Travel Reimbursement Dependent on Frequency and Scope
Provides for Tax Refund Donations: \$0 Revenue Impact	

Research Analysis

HB 2896, as introduced, creates the ConnectOklahoma Multimodal Transportation Act. The measure creates the ConnectOklahoma Mass Transit and Infrastructure Revolving Fund. The measure provides definitions and establishes sources for revenue streams. Funds are to be deposited with the Oklahoma Treasurer, and all interest gained must be deposited into the revolving fund. The measure provides for the purpose and process for the expenditure of funds. The measure establishes powers and duties to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. The measure requires ODOT to prescribe rules for determining eligibility and priority of applications for transportation projects in order for projects to be referred to the ConnectOklahoma Regional and Modal Committees for consideration to receive loans and grants made from the fund, and provides minimum rules.

The measure also provides process in the case of a default in payment of principal or interest on loans made from the revolving fund. The measure requires the Attorney General to take action to collect any amounts due or owed to the fund. The measure creates the Connect Oklahoma Final Review Board and requires that it consists of five members. The measure requires that the membership is appointed by the Governor and provides for the appointment and qualification process. Members of the board are prohibited from receiving compensation, although are authorized to receive travel reimbursements.

The measure requires ODOT to provide staff to perform designated duties of Final Review Board. The measure requires the Final Review Board to organize, appoint, to adopt a seal, and to create rules and regulations for its administration, within thirty days. The measure provides for powers and duties of the board and requires it to provide an annual report to the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Governor detailing and itemizing the transportation projects taken under consideration during previous year.

The measure requires the Final Review Board to appoint the membership of each regional committee and provides for qualifications, and duties and powers for regional boards. The measure establishes a provision on the corporate income tax return for the benefit of ConnectOklahoma. Finally, the measure expands the state infrastructure bank to include Connect Oklahoma.

Prepared By: Kyle Meade

Fiscal Analysis

The measure creates a structure for providing loans, and grants to non-highway transportation projects that promote economic development and job creation. The newly created ConnectOklahoma Mass Transit and Infrastructure Revolving Fund is structured to receive monies from capitalization grants from the Federal Highway Administration in relation to the State Infrastructure Bank created pursuant to 69 O.S., Section 403. Funds may also result from donations, appropriations, sale of rail property, interest and loan administration fees and other sources public or private.

No funding is provided in the measure, meaning there is no direct fiscal cost for programs until funding is secured from the sources stated. There is a travel reimbursement provision related to the creation of the ConnectOklahoma Final Review Board for necessary travel. The amount of reimbursement will depend on the frequency and scope of travel and the reimbursable costs.

The measure provides for the ability for individual and corporate income tax filers to donate from a tax refund to the revolving Fund. No revenue impact to collections will result.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.