

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

HOUSE BILL 2510

By: Billy

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to open records; amending 51 O.S. 2011, Section 24A.5, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 370, O.S.L. 2015 (51 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 24A.5), which relates to the inspection and copying of records of public bodies and public officials; requiring social security numbers in public records to be confidential and redacted or deleted prior to release of record; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 51 O.S. 2011, Section 24A.5, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 370, O.S.L. 2015 (51 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 24A.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 24A.5 All records of public bodies and public officials shall be open to any person for inspection, copying, or mechanical reproduction during regular business hours; provided:

1. The Oklahoma Open Records Act, Sections 24A.1 through 24A.30 of this title, does not apply to records specifically required by law to be kept confidential including:

- a. records protected by a state evidentiary privilege such as the attorney-client privilege, the work

1 product immunity from discovery and the identity of  
2 informer privileges,

3 b. records of what transpired during meetings of a public  
4 body lawfully closed to the public such as executive  
5 sessions authorized under the Oklahoma Open Meeting  
6 Act,

7 c. personal information within driver records as defined  
8 by the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 United  
9 States Code, Sections 2721 through 2725,

10 d. information in the files of the Board of Medicolegal  
11 Investigations obtained pursuant to Sections 940 and  
12 941 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes that may be  
13 hearsay, preliminary unsubstantiated investigation-  
14 related findings, or confidential medical information,  
15 or

16 e. any test forms, question banks and answer keys  
17 developed for state licensure examinations, but  
18 specifically excluding test preparation materials or  
19 study guides;

20 2. All social security numbers included in a record shall be  
21 confidential regardless of the person's status as a public employee  
22 or private individual and shall be redacted or deleted prior to  
23 release of the record by the public body;  
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1        3. Any reasonably segregable portion of a record containing  
2 exempt material shall be provided after deletion of the exempt  
3 portions; provided however, the Department of Public Safety shall  
4 not be required to assemble for the requesting person specific  
5 information, in any format, from driving records relating to any  
6 person whose name and date of birth or whose driver license number  
7 is not furnished by the requesting person.

8        The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall not be required  
9 to assemble for the requesting person any criminal history records  
10 relating to persons whose names, dates of birth, and other  
11 identifying information required by the Oklahoma State Bureau of  
12 Investigation pursuant to administrative rule are not furnished by  
13 the requesting person;

14        ~~3.~~ 4. Any request for a record which contains individual  
15 records of persons, and the cost of copying, reproducing or  
16 certifying each individual record is otherwise prescribed by state  
17 law, the cost may be assessed for each individual record, or portion  
18 thereof requested as prescribed by state law. Otherwise, a public  
19 body may charge a fee only for recovery of the reasonable, direct  
20 costs of record copying, or mechanical reproduction.

21 Notwithstanding any state or local provision to the contrary, in no  
22 instance shall the record copying fee exceed twenty-five cents  
23 (\$0.25) per page for records having the dimensions of eight and one-  
24 half (8 1/2) by fourteen (14) inches or smaller, or a maximum of One

1 Dollar (\$1.00) per copied page for a certified copy. However, if  
2 the request:

3 a. is solely for commercial purpose, or

4 b. would clearly cause excessive disruption of the  
5 essential functions of the public body,

6 then the public body may charge a reasonable fee to recover the  
7 direct cost of record search and copying; however, publication in a  
8 newspaper or broadcast by news media for news purposes shall not  
9 constitute a resale or use of a record for trade or commercial  
10 purpose and charges for providing copies of electronic data to the  
11 news media for a news purpose shall not exceed the direct cost of  
12 making the copy. The fee charged by the Department of Public Safety  
13 for a copy in a computerized format of a record of the Department  
14 shall not exceed the direct cost of making the copy unless the fee  
15 for the record is otherwise set by law.

16 Any public body establishing fees under this act shall post a  
17 written schedule of the fees at its principal office and with the  
18 county clerk.

19 In no case shall a search fee be charged when the release of  
20 records is in the public interest, including, but not limited to,  
21 release to the news media, scholars, authors and taxpayers seeking  
22 to determine whether those entrusted with the affairs of the  
23 government are honestly, faithfully, and competently performing  
24 their duties as public servants.

1       The fees shall not be used for the purpose of discouraging  
2 requests for information or as obstacles to disclosure of requested  
3 information;

4       ~~4.~~ 5. The land description tract index of all recorded  
5 instruments concerning real property required to be kept by the  
6 county clerk of any county shall be available for inspection or  
7 copying in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open  
8 Records Act; provided, however, the index shall not be copied or  
9 mechanically reproduced for the purpose of sale of the information;

10       ~~5.~~ 6. A public body must provide prompt, reasonable access to  
11 its records but may establish reasonable procedures which protect  
12 the integrity and organization of its records and to prevent  
13 excessive disruptions of its essential functions; and

14       ~~6.~~ 7. A public body shall designate certain persons who are  
15 authorized to release records of the public body for inspection,  
16 copying, or mechanical reproduction. At least one person shall be  
17 available at all times to release records during the regular  
18 business hours of the public body.

19       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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