

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                   1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4   HOUSE BILL 1856

By: Osborn (Leslie)

7                   AS INTRODUCED

8           An Act relating to state government; creating the  
9           Task Force for the Study of the Oklahoma Tax Code;  
10          providing purpose for Task Force and requirements for  
11          study; providing for appointment and selection of  
12          Task Force members; requiring organizational meeting  
13          by specified date; requiring selection of chair and  
14          vice-chair; providing requirements for quorum; making  
15          number of meetings permissive; requiring travel  
16          reimbursement; requiring written report by certain  
17          date and specifying contents thereof; subjecting Task  
18          Force to certain provisions; providing for staff  
19          assistance from specified entities; providing for  
20          noncodification; providing an effective date; and  
21          declaring an emergency.

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

23           SECTION 1.       NEW LAW       A new section of law not to be  
24           codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

25           A.   There is hereby created the Task Force for the Study of the  
26           Oklahoma Tax Code.   The purpose of the Task Force shall be to  
27           conduct a comprehensive study of the Oklahoma Tax Code to include,  
28           but not be limited to:

1        1. A review of all potential sustainable revenue streams which  
2 could be made available to different levels of government; and

3        2. A review of all and potential sustainable budget cuts which  
4 could be implemented by the different levels of government; and

5        3. Such other matters related to tax as the Task Force deems  
6 relevant.

7        B. The Task Force shall consist of sixteen (16) members to be  
8 selected as follows:

9        1. The Governor shall appoint:

10        a. one person representing a municipality with a  
11            population of less than fifty thousand (50,000)  
12            persons,

13        b. one person representing a statewide nonprofit  
14            organization, the membership of which consists  
15            primarily of municipalities organized under the laws  
16            of the State of Oklahoma and which organization  
17            supports the functions of such municipalities,

18        c. one person representing a statewide nonprofit  
19            organization, the membership of which consists  
20            primarily of counties organized under the laws of the  
21            State of Oklahoma and which organization supports the  
22            function of such counties,

23        d. five persons with business experience, one from each  
24            of the state's Congressional districts. Three members

1 shall represent small businesses and two shall  
2 represent large businesses. For purposes of this  
3 section, a "small business" shall mean a for-profit  
4 enterprise consisting of fifty or fewer full-time or  
5 part-time employees, and a "large business" shall mean  
6 a for-profit enterprise consisting of more than fifty  
7 full-time or part-time employees;

8 2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint:

9 a. two persons representing municipalities with a  
10 population in excess of four hundred thousand  
11 (400,000) persons according to the latest Federal  
12 Decennial Census,

13 b. one person representing a municipality with a  
14 population in excess of fifty thousand (50,000)  
15 persons but not in excess of one hundred thousand  
16 (100,000) persons according to the latest Federal  
17 Decennial Census,

18 c. one person of the Senate who serves as a member of a  
19 committee with jurisdiction over the budget of the  
20 Oklahoma Tax Commission, and

21 d. one person of the Senate who serves as a member of the  
22 Finance Committee, and

23 3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:  
24

- 1           a.    one person representing a municipality with a  
2                   population in excess of one hundred thousand (100,000)  
3                   but not in excess of four hundred thousand (400,000)  
4                   persons according to the latest Federal Decennial  
5                   Census,  
6           b.    one person of the House of Representatives who serves  
7                   as a member of a committee with jurisdiction over the  
8                   budget of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, and  
9           c.    one person of the House of Representatives who serves  
10                  as a member of the Revenue and Taxation Subcommittee.

11           C.   The Task Force shall conduct an organizational meeting not  
12 later than September 30, 2017. Such meeting shall be called by the  
13 Governor. A chair and cochair shall be selected by the members  
14 present at the organizational meeting. A majority of the members  
15 present at the organizational meeting or any subsequent meeting  
16 shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of any action taken,  
17 including the preparation and approval of the final report required  
18 by this section. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as  
19 the original appointment.

20           D.   The Task Force shall be authorized to meet as necessary in  
21 order to perform the duties imposed upon it. Members of the Task  
22 Force shall be reimbursed as provided by the appointing authority.

23           E.   The Task Force shall produce a final written report of its  
24 findings and any recommendations regarding changes to the Tax Code.

1 The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the President Pro  
2 Tempore of the State Senate and to the Speaker of the Oklahoma House  
3 of Representatives not later than December 1, 2018.

4 F. The Task Force shall be subject to the provisions of the  
5 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

6 G. Staff assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the  
7 staff of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma State Senate and  
8 Oklahoma House of Representatives.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

10 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
11 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
12 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
13 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

14  
15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, COMMERCE AND TOURISM,  
16 dated 02/08/2017 - DO PASS.  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24