

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

SENATE BILL 1082

By: Matthews

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to high-speed transit rail expansion; creating the High-Speed Transit Rail Expansion Commission; stating membership; requiring appointments by certain date; providing for staffing and travel reimbursement; stating purpose; creating the High-Speed Transit Rail Infrastructure Revolving Fund; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 189 of Title 66, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the "High-Speed Transit Rail Expansion Commission". The Commission shall consist of nine (9) members, as follows:

1. The Secretary of Transportation, or a designee;

2. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, or a designee;

3. The State Treasurer, or a designee;

4. Two members appointed by the Governor;

1        5. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
2 Representatives; and

3        6. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
4 Senate.

5        Any vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner  
6 as the original appointment.

7        B. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of  
8 the House of Representatives shall each designate one of the members  
9 appointed to the Commission to serve as cochair. Members of the  
10 Commission shall serve without compensation. Nonlegislative  
11 Commission members employed by the state shall be reimbursed for  
12 travel expenses related to their service on the Commission by their  
13 appointing authority in accordance with the provisions of the State  
14 Travel Reimbursement Act. Legislative members of the Commission  
15 shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in  
16 the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of  
17 Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

18        C. The Commission shall do all of the following:

19        1. Meet at such times and places as it shall determine  
20 necessary or convenient to perform its duties. The Commission shall  
21 also meet on the call of the chairperson or the Governor;

22        2. Maintain minutes of its meetings;

23        3. Adopt rules and regulations for the transaction of its  
24 business;

1       4. Develop a strategy for the expansion of high-speed public  
2 rail transit from Oklahoma City to Tulsa;

3       5. Develop a strategy to acquire all lands, properties, rights,  
4 air rights, sub-surface rights, easements and other interests along  
5 the Interstate 44 corridor between Oklahoma City and Tulsa to  
6 complete the high-speed rail project;

7       6. Determine the location of future rail transit stations along  
8 any proposed high-speed rail route within the Interstate 44 corridor  
9 for purposes of economic development and planning;

10       7. Maintain records of all funds received as gifts and  
11 donations pursuant to subsection E of this section; and

12       8. The Commission shall utilize existing state resources and  
13 staff of participating departments whenever practicable.

14       D. The Commission may accept and solicit federal funds granted  
15 by Congress or executive order for the purposes of this section as  
16 well as gifts and donations from individuals, private organizations,  
17 or foundations. All funds shall be deposited into the High-Speed  
18 Transit Rail Infrastructure Revolving Fund as created in subsection  
19 H of this section.

20       E. The Commission may recommend to the Governor and the State  
21 Legislature changes in state programs, statutes, policies, budgets  
22 and standards relating to the provision of high-speed public rail  
23 transit services in this state, with the objective of maintaining  
24 and expanding transit rail infrastructure in order to maximize

1 economic development, decrease traffic congestion and provide  
2 reliable transportation options for citizens and visitors.

3 F. The Commission may also address any other pertinent issues  
4 it deems necessary to carry out the scope of such projects.

5 G. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving  
6 fund for the Department of Transportation to be designated the  
7 "High-Speed Transit Rail Infrastructure Revolving Fund". The fund  
8 shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations,  
9 and shall consist of all monies received by the High-Speed Transit  
10 Rail Expansion Commission from any federal funds, gifts or  
11 donations. All monies accruing to the credit of the Fund are hereby  
12 appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Department of  
13 Transportation for the purpose of expanding high-speed rail service  
14 between Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Expenditures from the Fund shall  
15 be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims  
16 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of  
17 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2018.

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

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