Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1602
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Author: Sen. Bergstrom
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Bill Analysis

SB 1602 creates the Oklahoma Public Safety Unification Act of 2020. On December 1, 2020, the measure creates the Oklahoma Public Safety Agency which consolidates:

- 1) Oklahoma Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public Safety,
- 2) Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control,
- 3) Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training,
- 4) State Fire Marshal
- 5) Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, and
- 6) Oklahoma ABLE Commission

The Oklahoma Public Safety Agency also incorporates the remainder of the Department of Public Safety under its civilian branch. The measure creates a Director to lead the Agency and directs the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services to transfer by monthly allocation any unencumbered funds originally appropriated to the consolidated agencies' funds. The Director of the Agency shall assume control of the funds after the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2022. The measure empowers the Governor to appoint the Director of Agency with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director may be removed by the Governor at will or by a 2/3's vote from the Legislature. The Director may affirm the directors of the consolidated agencies as the respective heads of their divisions. The measure empowers and directs the Director to appoint leaders to the respective divisions consolidated by the measure, administer Agency, prepare proposed rules and regulations, and provide a plan for a unified position and compensation system for state law enforcement to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and the minority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives no later than November 1, 2021, enter into contacts with agencies, modify divisions within the Agency. The Oklahoma Public Safety Agency Revolving Fund is created to be expended on Agency operations.

The measure creates an Investigation Oversight Commission to provide oversight to the Agency. The Commission shall be comprised of 7 members. Members of the Commission shall serve without salary but may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses. The Investigation Oversight Commission shall have oversight of any investigation of the State Bureau of Investigation Division of the Oklahoma Public Safety Agency

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