

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 7, 2021

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 2040

By: McCall of the House

5 and

6 Leewright of the Senate

7
8 **[revenue and taxation - sales tax exemptions -**
9 **certain equipment used for broadband access -**
10 **codification - effective date -**
11 **emergency]**

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 1357, as
14 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 241, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp.
15 2020, Section 1357), is amended to read as follows:

16 Section 1357. Exemptions - General.

17 There are hereby specifically exempted from the tax levied by
18 the Oklahoma Sales Tax Code:

19 1. Transportation of school pupils to and from elementary
20 schools or high schools in motor or other vehicles;

21 2. Transportation of persons where the fare of each person does
22 not exceed One Dollar (\$1.00), or local transportation of persons
23 within the corporate limits of a municipality except by taxicabs;

1 3. Sales for resale to persons engaged in the business of
2 reselling the articles purchased, whether within or without the
3 state, provided that such sales to residents of this state are made
4 to persons to whom sales tax permits have been issued as provided in
5 the Oklahoma Sales Tax Code. This exemption shall not apply to the
6 sales of articles made to persons holding permits when such persons
7 purchase items for their use and which they are not regularly
8 engaged in the business of reselling; neither shall this exemption
9 apply to sales of tangible personal property to peddlers, solicitors
10 and other salespersons who do not have an established place of
11 business and a sales tax permit. The exemption provided by this
12 paragraph shall apply to sales of motor fuel or diesel fuel to a
13 Group Five vendor, but the use of such motor fuel or diesel fuel by
14 the Group Five vendor shall not be exempt from the tax levied by the
15 Oklahoma Sales Tax Code. The purchase of motor fuel or diesel fuel
16 is exempt from sales tax when the motor fuel is for shipment outside
17 this state and consumed by a common carrier by rail in the conduct
18 of its business. The sales tax shall apply to the purchase of motor
19 fuel or diesel fuel in Oklahoma by a common carrier by rail when
20 such motor fuel is purchased for fueling, within this state, of any
21 locomotive or other motorized flanged wheel equipment;

22 4. Sales of advertising space in newspapers and periodicals;

23 5. Sales of programs relating to sporting and entertainment
24 events, and sales of advertising on billboards (including signage,

1 posters, panels, marquees, or on other similar surfaces, whether
2 indoors or outdoors) or in programs relating to sporting and
3 entertainment events, and sales of any advertising, to be displayed
4 at or in connection with a sporting event, via the Internet,
5 electronic display devices, or through public address or broadcast
6 systems. The exemption authorized by this paragraph shall be
7 effective for all sales made on or after January 1, 2001;

8 6. Sales of any advertising, other than the advertising
9 described by paragraph 5 of this section, via the Internet,
10 electronic display devices, or through the electronic media,
11 including radio, public address or broadcast systems, television
12 (whether through closed circuit broadcasting systems or otherwise),
13 and cable and satellite television, and the servicing of any
14 advertising devices;

15 7. Eggs, feed, supplies, machinery and equipment purchased by
16 persons regularly engaged in the business of raising worms, fish,
17 any insect or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic animal life
18 and used for the purpose of raising same for marketing. This
19 exemption shall only be granted and extended to the purchaser when
20 the items are to be used and in fact are used in the raising of
21 animal life as set out above. Each purchaser shall certify, in
22 writing, on the invoice or sales ticket retained by the vendor that
23 the purchaser is regularly engaged in the business of raising such
24 animal life and that the items purchased will be used only in such

1 business. The vendor shall certify to the Oklahoma Tax Commission
2 that the price of the items has been reduced to grant the full
3 benefit of the exemption. Violation hereof by the purchaser or
4 vendor shall be a misdemeanor;

5 8. Sale of natural or artificial gas and electricity, and
6 associated delivery or transmission services, when sold exclusively
7 for residential use. Provided, this exemption shall not apply to
8 any sales tax levied by a city or town, or a county, or any other
9 jurisdiction in this state;

10 9. In addition to the exemptions authorized by Section 1357.6
11 of this title, sales of drugs sold pursuant to a prescription
12 written for the treatment of human beings by a person licensed to
13 prescribe the drugs, and sales of insulin and medical oxygen.
14 Provided, this exemption shall not apply to over-the-counter drugs;

15 10. Transfers of title or possession of empty, partially
16 filled, or filled returnable oil and chemical drums to any person
17 who is not regularly engaged in the business of selling, reselling
18 or otherwise transferring empty, partially filled, or filled
19 returnable oil drums;

20 11. Sales of one-way utensils, paper napkins, paper cups,
21 disposable hot containers and other one-way carry out materials to a
22 vendor of meals or beverages;

23 12. Sales of food or food products for home consumption which
24 are purchased in whole or in part with coupons issued pursuant to

1 the federal food stamp program as authorized by Sections 2011
2 through 2029 of Title 7 of the United States Code, as to that
3 portion purchased with such coupons. The exemption provided for
4 such sales shall be inapplicable to such sales upon the effective
5 date of any federal law that removes the requirement of the
6 exemption as a condition for participation by the state in the
7 federal food stamp program;

8 13. Sales of food or food products, or any equipment or
9 supplies used in the preparation of the food or food products to or
10 by an organization which:

11 a. is exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of
12 Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26
13 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), and which provides and
14 delivers prepared meals for home consumption to
15 elderly or homebound persons as part of a program
16 commonly known as "Meals on Wheels" or "Mobile Meals",
17 or

18 b. is exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of
19 Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26
20 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), and which receives federal
21 funding pursuant to the Older Americans Act of 1965,
22 as amended, for the purpose of providing nutrition
23 programs for the care and benefit of elderly persons;
24

1 14. a. Sales of tangible personal property or services to or
2 by organizations which are exempt from taxation
3 pursuant to the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the
4 Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3),
5 and:

6 (1) are primarily involved in the collection and
7 distribution of food and other household products
8 to other organizations that facilitate the
9 distribution of such products to the needy and
10 such distributee organizations are exempt from
11 taxation pursuant to the provisions of Section
12 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26
13 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), or

14 (2) facilitate the distribution of such products to
15 the needy.

16 b. Sales made in the course of business for profit or
17 savings, competing with other persons engaged in the
18 same or similar business shall not be exempt under
19 this paragraph;

20 15. Sales of tangible personal property or services to
21 children's homes which are located on church-owned property and are
22 operated by organizations exempt from taxation pursuant to the
23 provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section
24 501(c)(3);

1 16. Sales of computers, data processing equipment, related
2 peripherals and telephone, telegraph or telecommunications service
3 and equipment for use in a qualified aircraft maintenance or
4 manufacturing facility. For purposes of this paragraph, "qualified
5 aircraft maintenance or manufacturing facility" means a new or
6 expanding facility primarily engaged in aircraft repair, building or
7 rebuilding whether or not on a factory basis, whose total cost of
8 construction exceeds the sum of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00)
9 and which employs at least two hundred fifty (250) new full-time-
10 equivalent employees, as certified by the Oklahoma Employment
11 Security Commission, upon completion of the facility. In order to
12 qualify for the exemption provided for by this paragraph, the cost
13 of the items purchased by the qualified aircraft maintenance or
14 manufacturing facility shall equal or exceed the sum of Two Million
15 Dollars (\$2,000,000.00);

16 17. Sales of tangible personal property consumed or
17 incorporated in the construction or expansion of a qualified
18 aircraft maintenance or manufacturing facility as defined in
19 paragraph 16 of this section. For purposes of this paragraph, sales
20 made to a contractor or subcontractor that has previously entered
21 into a contractual relationship with a qualified aircraft
22 maintenance or manufacturing facility for construction or expansion
23 of such a facility shall be considered sales made to a qualified
24 aircraft maintenance or manufacturing facility;

1 18. Sales of the following telecommunications services:

2 a. Interstate and International "800 service". "800
3 service" means a "telecommunications service" that
4 allows a caller to dial a toll-free number without
5 incurring a charge for the call. The service is
6 typically marketed under the name "800", "855", "866",
7 "877", and "888" toll-free calling, and any subsequent
8 numbers designated by the Federal Communications
9 Commission, or

10 b. Interstate and International "900 service". "900
11 service" means an inbound toll "telecommunications
12 service" purchased by a subscriber that allows the
13 subscriber's customers to call in to the subscriber's
14 prerecorded announcement or live service. "900
15 service" does not include the charge for: collection
16 services provided by the seller of the
17 "telecommunications services" to the subscriber, or
18 service or product sold by the subscriber to the
19 subscriber's customer. The service is typically
20 marketed under the name "900" service, and any
21 subsequent numbers designated by the Federal
22 Communications Commission,

23 c. Interstate and International "private communications
24 service". "Private communications service" means a

1 "telecommunications service" that entitles the
2 customer to exclusive or priority use of a
3 communications channel or group of channels between or
4 among termination points, regardless of the manner in
5 which such channel or channels are connected, and
6 includes switching capacity, extension lines,
7 stations, and any other associated services that are
8 provided in connection with the use of such channel or
9 channels,

10 d. "Value-added nonvoice data service". "Value-added
11 nonvoice data service" means a service that otherwise
12 meets the definition of "telecommunications services"
13 in which computer processing applications are used to
14 act on the form, content, code, or protocol of the
15 information or data primarily for a purpose other than
16 transmission, conveyance or routing,

17 e. Interstate and International telecommunications
18 service which is:

19 (1) rendered by a company for private use within its
20 organization, or

21 (2) used, allocated, or distributed by a company to
22 its affiliated group,

23 f. Regulatory assessments and charges, including charges
24 to fund the Oklahoma Universal Service Fund, the

Oklahoma Lifeline Fund and the Oklahoma High Cost Fund, and

g. Telecommunications nonrecurring charges, including but not limited to the installation, connection, change or initiation of telecommunications services which are not associated with a retail consumer sale;

19. Sales of railroad track spikes manufactured and sold for use in this state in the construction or repair of railroad tracks, switches, sidings and turnouts;

20. Sales of aircraft and aircraft parts provided such sales occur at a qualified aircraft maintenance facility. As used in this paragraph, "qualified aircraft maintenance facility" means a facility operated by an air common carrier, including one or more component overhaul support buildings or structures in an area owned, leased or controlled by the air common carrier, at which there were employed at least two thousand (2,000) full-time-equivalent employees in the preceding year as certified by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and which is primarily related to the fabrication, repair, alteration, modification, refurbishing, maintenance, building or rebuilding of commercial aircraft or aircraft parts used in air common carriage. For purposes of this paragraph, "air common carrier" shall also include members of an affiliated group as defined by Section 1504 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 1504. Beginning July 1, 2012, sales of

1 machinery, tools, supplies, equipment and related tangible personal
2 property and services used or consumed in the repair, remodeling or
3 maintenance of aircraft, aircraft engines, or aircraft component
4 parts which occur at a qualified aircraft maintenance facility;

5 21. Sales of machinery and equipment purchased and used by
6 persons and establishments primarily engaged in computer services
7 and data processing:

- 8 a. as defined under Industrial Group Numbers 7372 and
9 7373 of the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)
10 Manual, latest version, which derive at least fifty
11 percent (50%) of their annual gross revenues from the
12 sale of a product or service to an out-of-state buyer
13 or consumer, and
14 b. as defined under Industrial Group Number 7374 of the
15 SIC Manual, latest version, which derive at least
16 eighty percent (80%) of their annual gross revenues
17 from the sale of a product or service to an out-of-
18 state buyer or consumer.

19 Eligibility for the exemption set out in this paragraph shall be
20 established, subject to review by the Tax Commission, by annually
21 filing an affidavit with the Tax Commission stating that the
22 facility so qualifies and such information as required by the Tax
23 Commission. For purposes of determining whether annual gross
24 revenues are derived from sales to out-of-state buyers or consumers,

1 all sales to the federal government shall be considered to be to an
2 out-of-state buyer or consumer;

3 22. Sales of prosthetic devices to an individual for use by
4 such individual. For purposes of this paragraph, "prosthetic
5 device" shall have the same meaning as provided in Section 1357.6 of
6 this title, but shall not include corrective eye glasses, contact
7 lenses or hearing aids;

8 23. Sales of tangible personal property or services to a motion
9 picture or television production company to be used or consumed in
10 connection with an eligible production. For purposes of this
11 paragraph, "eligible production" means a documentary, special, music
12 video, or a television commercial or television program that will
13 serve as a pilot for or be a segment of an ongoing dramatic or
14 situation comedy series filmed or taped for network or national or
15 regional syndication or a feature-length motion picture intended for
16 theatrical release or for network or national or regional
17 syndication or broadcast. The provisions of this paragraph shall
18 apply to sales occurring on or after July 1, 1996. In order to
19 qualify for the exemption, the motion picture or television
20 production company shall file any documentation and information
21 required to be submitted pursuant to rules promulgated by the Tax
22 Commission;

23 24. Sales of diesel fuel sold for consumption by commercial
24 vessels, barges and other commercial watercraft;

1 25. Sales of tangible personal property or services to tax-
2 exempt independent nonprofit biomedical research foundations that
3 provide educational programs for Oklahoma science students and
4 teachers and to tax-exempt independent nonprofit community blood
5 banks headquartered in this state;

6 26. Effective May 6, 1992, sales of wireless telecommunications
7 equipment to a vendor who subsequently transfers the equipment at no
8 charge or for a discounted charge to a consumer as part of a
9 promotional package or as an inducement to commence or continue a
10 contract for wireless telecommunications services;

11 27. Effective January 1, 1991, leases of rail transportation
12 cars to haul coal to coal-fired plants located in this state which
13 generate electric power;

14 28. Beginning July 1, 2005, sales of aircraft engine repairs,
15 modification, and replacement parts, sales of aircraft frame repairs
16 and modification, aircraft interior modification, and paint, and
17 sales of services employed in the repair, modification and
18 replacement of parts of aircraft engines, aircraft frame and
19 interior repair and modification, and paint;

20 29. Sales of materials and supplies to the owner or operator of
21 a ship, motor vessel or barge that is used in interstate or
22 international commerce if the materials and supplies:
23
24

1 a. are loaded on the ship, motor vessel or barge and used
2 in the maintenance and operation of the ship, motor
3 vessel or barge, or

4 b. enter into and become component parts of the ship,
5 motor vessel or barge;

6 30. Sales of tangible personal property made at estate sales at
7 which such property is offered for sale on the premises of the
8 former residence of the decedent by a person who is not required to
9 be licensed pursuant to the Transient Merchant Licensing Act, or who
10 is not otherwise required to obtain a sales tax permit for the sale
11 of such property pursuant to the provisions of Section 1364 of this
12 title; provided:

13 a. such sale or event may not be held for a period
14 exceeding three (3) consecutive days,

15 b. the sale must be conducted within six (6) months of
16 the date of death of the decedent, and

17 c. the exemption allowed by this paragraph shall not be
18 allowed for property that was not part of the
19 decedent's estate;

20 31. Beginning January 1, 2004, sales of electricity and
21 associated delivery and transmission services, when sold exclusively
22 for use by an oil and gas operator for reservoir dewatering projects
23 and associated operations commencing on or after July 1, 2003, in
24 which the initial water-to-oil ratio is greater than or equal to

1 five-to-one water-to-oil, and such oil and gas development projects
2 have been classified by the Corporation Commission as a reservoir
3 dewatering unit;

4 32. Sales of prewritten computer software that is delivered
5 electronically. For purposes of this paragraph, "delivered
6 electronically" means delivered to the purchaser by means other than
7 tangible storage media;

8 33. Sales of modular dwelling units when built at a production
9 facility and moved in whole or in parts, to be assembled on-site,
10 and permanently affixed to the real property and used for
11 residential or commercial purposes. The exemption provided by this
12 paragraph shall equal forty-five percent (45%) of the total sales
13 price of the modular dwelling unit. For purposes of this paragraph,
14 "modular dwelling unit" means a structure that is not subject to the
15 motor vehicle excise tax imposed pursuant to Section 2103 of this
16 title;

17 34. Sales of tangible personal property or services to persons
18 who are residents of Oklahoma and have been honorably discharged
19 from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United
20 States or Oklahoma National Guard and who have been certified by the
21 United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor to be
22 in receipt of disability compensation at the one-hundred-percent
23 rate and the disability shall be permanent and have been sustained
24 through military action or accident or resulting from disease

1 contracted while in such active service or the surviving spouse of
2 such person if the person is deceased and the spouse has not
3 remarried; provided, sales for the benefit of the person to a spouse
4 of the eligible person or to a member of the household in which the
5 eligible person resides and who is authorized to make purchases on
6 the person's behalf, when such eligible person is not present at the
7 sale, shall also be exempt for purposes of this paragraph. The
8 Oklahoma Tax Commission shall issue a separate exemption card to a
9 spouse of an eligible person or to a member of the household in
10 which the eligible person resides who is authorized to make
11 purchases on the person's behalf, if requested by the eligible
12 person. Sales qualifying for the exemption authorized by this
13 paragraph shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00)
14 per year per individual while the disabled veteran is living. Sales
15 qualifying for the exemption authorized by this paragraph shall not
16 exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year for an unremarried
17 surviving spouse. Upon request of the Tax Commission, a person
18 asserting or claiming the exemption authorized by this paragraph
19 shall provide a statement, executed under oath, that the total sales
20 amounts for which the exemption is applicable have not exceeded
21 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) per year per living
22 disabled veteran or One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year for an
23 unremarried surviving spouse. If the amount of such exempt sales
24 exceeds such amount, the sales tax in excess of the authorized

1 amount shall be treated as a direct sales tax liability and may be
2 recovered by the Tax Commission in the same manner provided by law
3 for other taxes, including penalty and interest;

4 35. Sales of electricity to the operator, specifically
5 designated by the Corporation Commission, of a spacing unit or lease
6 from which oil is produced or attempted to be produced using
7 enhanced recovery methods, including, but not limited to, increased
8 pressure in a producing formation through the use of water or
9 saltwater if the electrical usage is associated with and necessary
10 for the operation of equipment required to inject or circulate
11 fluids in a producing formation for the purpose of forcing oil or
12 petroleum into a wellbore for eventual recovery and production from
13 the wellhead. In order to be eligible for the sales tax exemption
14 authorized by this paragraph, the total content of oil recovered
15 after the use of enhanced recovery methods shall not exceed one
16 percent (1%) by volume. The exemption authorized by this paragraph
17 shall be applicable only to the state sales tax rate and shall not
18 be applicable to any county or municipal sales tax rate;

19 36. Sales of intrastate charter and tour bus transportation.
20 As used in this paragraph, "intrastate charter and tour bus
21 transportation" means the transportation of persons from one
22 location in this state to another location in this state in a motor
23 vehicle which has been constructed in such a manner that it may
24 lawfully carry more than eighteen persons, and which is ordinarily

1 used or rented to carry persons for compensation. Provided, this
2 exemption shall not apply to regularly scheduled bus transportation
3 for the general public;

4 37. Sales of vitamins, minerals and dietary supplements by a
5 licensed chiropractor to a person who is the patient of such
6 chiropractor at the physical location where the chiropractor
7 provides chiropractic care or services to such patient. The
8 provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to any drug,
9 medicine or substance for which a prescription by a licensed
10 physician is required;

11 38. Sales of goods, wares, merchandise, tangible personal
12 property, machinery and equipment to a web search portal located in
13 this state which derives at least eighty percent (80%) of its annual
14 gross revenue from the sale of a product or service to an out-of-
15 state buyer or consumer. For purposes of this paragraph, "web
16 search portal" means an establishment classified under NAICS code
17 519130 which operates websites that use a search engine to generate
18 and maintain extensive databases of Internet addresses and content
19 in an easily searchable format;

20 39. Sales of tangible personal property consumed or
21 incorporated in the construction or expansion of a facility for a
22 corporation organized under Section 437 et seq. of Title 18 of the
23 Oklahoma Statutes as a rural electric cooperative. For purposes of
24 this paragraph, sales made to a contractor or subcontractor that has

1 previously entered into a contractual relationship with a rural
2 electric cooperative for construction or expansion of a facility
3 shall be considered sales made to a rural electric cooperative;

4 40. Sales of tangible personal property or services to a
5 business primarily engaged in the repair of consumer electronic
6 goods, including, but not limited to, cell phones, compact disc
7 players, personal computers, MP3 players, digital devices for the
8 storage and retrieval of information through hard-wired or wireless
9 computer or Internet connections, if the devices are sold to the
10 business by the original manufacturer of such devices and the
11 devices are repaired, refitted or refurbished for sale by the entity
12 qualifying for the exemption authorized by this paragraph directly
13 to retail consumers or if the devices are sold to another business
14 entity for sale to retail consumers;

15 41. On or after July 1, 2019, and prior to July 1, 2024, sales
16 or leases of rolling stock when sold or leased by the manufacturer,
17 regardless of whether the purchaser is a public services corporation
18 engaged in business as a common carrier of property or passengers by
19 railway, for use or consumption by a common carrier directly in the
20 rendition of public service. For purposes of this paragraph,
21 "rolling stock" means locomotives, autocars and railroad cars and
22 "sales or leases" includes railroad car maintenance and retrofitting
23 of railroad cars for their further use only on the railways; ~~and~~

1 42. Sales of gold, silver, platinum, palladium or other bullion
2 items such as coins and bars and legal tender of any nation, which
3 legal tender is sold according to its value as precious metal or as
4 an investment. As used in the paragraph, "bullion" means any
5 precious metal, including, but not limited to, gold, silver,
6 platinum and palladium, that is in such a state or condition that
7 its value depends upon its precious metal content and not its form.
8 The exemption authorized by this paragraph shall not apply to
9 fabricated metals that have been processed or manufactured for
10 artistic use or as jewelry; and

11 43. Subject to the other requirements of this paragraph and the
12 requirements of Section 2 of this act, sale, lease, rental, storage,
13 use or other consumption of qualifying broadband equipment by
14 providers of Internet service or subsidiaries if the property is
15 directly used or consumed by the provider or subsidiary in or during
16 the distribution of broadband Internet service.

17 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1357.21 of Title 68, unless
19 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. The exemption authorized by the provisions of paragraph 43
21 of Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be
22 administered as a rebate.

23 B. No claim for a rebate shall be approved unless the equipment
24 was purchased in order to establish or expand broadband services in

1 underserved or unserved areas. As used in this subsection and for
2 purposes of the exemption authorized by paragraph 43 of Section 1357
3 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, "broadband", "underserved" and
4 "unserved" shall mean those services and areas as defined in Section
5 139.102 of Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

6 C. No claim for rebate shall be approved unless the claimant
7 establishes that as a result of the equipment purchase there has
8 been net growth in the number of potential customers served in
9 underserved or unserved areas.

10 D. In order to qualify for rebate payments during the fiscal
11 year beginning July 1, 2022, equipment or other items qualifying for
12 the exemption authorized by paragraph 43 of Section 1357 of Title 68
13 of the Oklahoma Statutes must be purchased and placed in service
14 between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022. Claims for rebates
15 of sales tax or use tax paid shall be filed with the Oklahoma Tax
16 Commission not later than September 1, 2023, with respect to such
17 equipment purchases. All claims shall be processed by the Tax
18 Commission not later than November 1, 2023.

19 E. If the exemption otherwise authorized by paragraph 43 of
20 Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes is in effect
21 pursuant to the requirements of subsection I of this section, in
22 order to qualify for rebate payments during the fiscal year
23 beginning July 1, 2023, equipment or other items qualifying for the
24 exemption authorized by paragraph 43 of Section 1357 of Title 68 of

1 the Oklahoma Statutes must be purchased and placed in service
2 between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023. Claims for rebates
3 of sales tax or use tax paid shall be filed with the Oklahoma Tax
4 Commission not later than September 1, 2024, with respect to such
5 equipment purchases. All claims shall be processed by the Tax
6 Commission not later than November 1, 2024.

7 F. Qualifying purchases do not include supporting or ancillary
8 functions, such as office operations, field operations, marketing,
9 transportation, warehousing, data storage or similar operations that
10 do not directly result in the distribution of broadband Internet
11 service. Property directly used or consumed in or during the
12 provision, creation or production of a data processing service or
13 information service, or property the provider grants, sells or
14 leases to the customer for use within the home or establishment
15 receiving broadband is not eligible for a rebate under this section.

16 G. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, the total amount
17 of rebates that may be paid shall not exceed Twenty Million Dollars
18 (\$20,000,000.00) with Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000.00) of
19 the total reserved for eligible projects serving counties having a
20 population density of fewer than one hundred persons per square mile
21 and Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) of the total reserved for
22 eligible projects serving counties having a population density of
23 one hundred or more persons per square mile.

1 H. The amount of rebate paid to each claimant shall be computed
2 by dividing the applicable total rebate pool amount by the dollar
3 amount of claims timely received by the Tax Commission with respect
4 to each fiscal year, and paying in full the amount of the claims
5 submitted if the amount of claims are equal to, or less than, the
6 total rebate pool, or a pro rata share if the total amount of claims
7 submitted exceed the rebate pool.

8 I. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and all
9 subsequent fiscal years, the total amount of rebate that may be paid
10 shall not exceed Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00), but the
11 allocation of this amount shall be made using an incentive award
12 formula as enacted into law by the Legislature after recommendation
13 by the Rural Broadband Expansion Council. If an incentive award
14 formula is not enacted into law as of January 1, 2023, then the
15 sales tax exemption otherwise authorized pursuant to paragraph 43 of
16 Section 1357 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall cease to be
17 effective as law and the exemption shall not be applicable to any
18 equipment purchase made on or after January 1, 2023.

19 J. Claims for rebate shall be on such forms as the Oklahoma Tax
20 Commission may prescribe for such purpose and shall contain any
21 required information or supporting documentation the Commission
22 requires to verify eligibility for the rebate payment.

23 K. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Rural Broadband
24 Expansion Council shall use information provided by the Oklahoma Tax

1 Commission to prepare a report to identify the qualifying rural
2 broadband projects completed with the equipment purchased together
3 with the location of the equipment and the geographic areas served
4 as a result of the equipment purchases, including the total number
5 of potential new customers receiving qualifying broadband services
6 resulting from the project.

7 L. The report shall be filed not later than December 1, 2023,
8 with respect to rebates paid for equipment purchases made during
9 calendar year 2022.

10 M. The report shall be filed with the Governor, the Speaker of
11 the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the
12 Senate and posted on the Rural Broadband Expansion Council website
13 maintained by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

14 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

15 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
16 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
20 April 7, 2021 - DO PASS
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