## **Bill Summary** 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1612
Version: INT
Request No.: 2338
Author: Sen. David
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## **Bill Analysis**

SB 1612 creates the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety Unification Act of 2022. The measure consolidates the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Division, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, and Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control under the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety. Consolidation of the listed agencies shall take effect July 1, 2023. The measure also directs the consolidated Department to establish and maintain a Public Integrity Division, whose head will be appointed by the newly created Commissioner of Public Safety. The newly created Division is tasked with investigating public officials for suspected bribery and corruption. Records pertaining to such investigations shall remain confidential. Additionally, a Mental Wellness Division is created to provide mental wellness services and programs to public safety personnel. The measure also creates the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety Revolving Fund as well as a Mental Wellness Division Revolving Fund. A not-for-profit organization is established to raise funds for the Mental Wellness Division Revolving Fund.

The measure establishes minimum qualifications for the Commissioner and creates the Board of Public Safety, which shall be comprised of 5 members. The Board shall be comprised of the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Secretary of Public Safety, and Lieutenant Governor. Board meetings shall be hosted by the Governor. The measure provides that the Commissioner shall be appointed no later than January 1, 2023.

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