

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 2049

By: Hardin of the House

and

7 **Woods** of the Senate

8
9
10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending
12 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1289.25, which relates to the
13 use of physical or deadly force; expanding scope of
14 certain definition; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1289.25, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1289.25

19 PHYSICAL OR DEADLY FORCE AGAINST INTRUDER

20 A. The Legislature hereby recognizes that the citizens of the
21 State of Oklahoma have a right to expect absolute safety within
22 their own homes, places of business or places of worship and have
23 the right to establish policies regarding the possession of weapons
24

1 on property pursuant to the provisions of Section 1290.22 of this
2 title.

3 B. A person, regardless of official capacity or lack of
4 official capacity, within a place of worship or a person, an owner,
5 manager or employee of a business is presumed to have held a
6 reasonable fear of imminent peril of death or great bodily harm to
7 himself or herself or another when using defensive force that is
8 intended or likely to cause death or great bodily harm to another
9 if:

10 1. a. The person against whom the defensive force was used
11 was in the process of unlawfully and forcefully
12 entering, or had unlawfully and forcibly entered, a
13 dwelling, residence, occupied vehicle, place of
14 business or place of worship, or if that person had
15 removed or was attempting to remove another against
16 the will of that person from the dwelling, residence,
17 occupied vehicle, place of business or place of
18 worship.

19 b. The person who uses defensive force knew or had reason
20 to believe that an unlawful and forcible entry or
21 unlawful and forcible act was occurring or had
22 occurred; or

23 2. The person who uses defensive force knew or had a reasonable
24 belief that the person against whom the defensive force was used

1 entered or was attempting to enter into a dwelling, residence,
2 occupied vehicle, place of business or place of worship for the
3 purpose of committing a forcible felony, as defined in Section 733
4 of this title, and that the defensive force was necessary to prevent
5 the commission of the forcible felony.

6 C. The presumption set forth in subsection B of this section
7 does not apply if:

8 1. The person against whom the defensive force is used has the
9 right to be in or is a lawful resident of the dwelling, residence,
10 or vehicle, such as an owner, lessee, or titleholder, and there is
11 not a protective order from domestic violence in effect or a written
12 pretrial supervision order of no contact against that person;

13 2. The person or persons sought to be removed are children or
14 grandchildren, or are otherwise in the lawful custody or under the
15 lawful guardianship of, the person against whom the defensive force
16 is used; or

17 3. The person who uses defensive force is engaged in an
18 unlawful activity or is using the dwelling, residence, occupied
19 vehicle, place of business or place of worship to further an
20 unlawful activity.

21 D. A person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity and who
22 is attacked in any other place where he or she has a right to be has
23 no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and
24 meet force with force, including deadly force, if he or she

1 reasonably believes it is necessary to do so to prevent death or
2 great bodily harm to himself or herself or another or to prevent the
3 commission of a forcible felony.

4 E. A person who unlawfully and by force enters or attempts to
5 enter the dwelling, residence, occupied vehicle of another person,
6 place of business or place of worship is presumed to be doing so
7 with the intent to commit an unlawful act involving force or
8 violence.

9 F. A person who uses defensive force, as permitted pursuant to
10 the provisions of subsections A, B, D and E of this section, is
11 justified in using such defensive force and is immune from criminal
12 prosecution and civil action for the use of such defensive force.
13 As used in this subsection, the term "criminal prosecution" includes
14 charging or prosecuting the defendant.

15 G. A law enforcement agency may use standard procedures for
16 investigating the use of defensive force, but the law enforcement
17 agency may not arrest the person for using defensive force unless it
18 determines that there is probable cause that the defensive force
19 that was used was unlawful.

20 H. The court shall award reasonable attorney fees, court costs,
21 compensation for loss of income, and all expenses incurred by the
22 defendant in defense of any civil action brought by a plaintiff if
23 the court finds that the defendant is immune from prosecution as
24 provided in subsection F of this section.

1 I. The provisions of this section and the provisions of the
2 Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall not be construed to require any
3 person using a weapon pursuant to the provisions of this section to
4 be licensed in any manner.

5 J. A person pointing a weapon at a perpetrator in self-defense
6 or in order to thwart, stop or deter a forcible felony or attempted
7 forcible felony shall not be deemed guilty of committing a criminal
8 act.

9 K. As used in this section:

10 1. "Defensive force" includes, but shall not be limited to,
11 pointing a weapon at a perpetrator in self-defense or in order to
12 thwart, stop or deter a forcible felony or attempted forcible
13 felony;

14 2. "Dwelling" means ~~a building or conveyance of any kind,~~
15 ~~including any attached porch, whether the building or conveyance is~~
16 ~~temporary or permanent, mobile or immobile, which has a roof over~~
17 ~~it, including a tent, and is designed to be occupied by people the~~
18 parcel of land to the property lines and any building or structure
19 erected thereon, of whatever form, regardless of whether movable or
20 temporary, which is for the time being the residence or place of
21 lodging of the person;

22 3. "Place of worship" means:

23 a. any permanent building, structure, facility or office
24 space owned, leased, rented or borrowed, on a full-

1 time basis, when used for worship services, activities
2 and business of the congregation, which may include,
3 but not be limited to, churches, temples, synagogues
4 and mosques, and

5 b. any permanent building, structure, facility or office
6 space owned, leased, rented or borrowed for use on a
7 temporary basis, when used for worship services,
8 activities and business of the congregation including,
9 but not limited to, churches, temples, synagogues and
10 mosques;

11 4. "Residence" means a dwelling in which a person resides
12 either temporarily or permanently or is visiting as an invited
13 guest; and

14 5. "Vehicle" means a conveyance of any kind, whether or not
15 motorized, which is designed to transport people or property.

16 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
17 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
18 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
19 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
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21 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS,
22 dated 02/22/2023 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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