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February 23, 2023

By: Hall of the Senate

and

Burns of the House

An Act relating to state motor vehicle purchasing; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 156, which relates to purchasing of automobiles or buses with public funds; adding to certain exempted entities; allowing certain truck purchasing; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 156, is amended to read as follows:

Section 156. A. Unless otherwise provided for by law, no state board, commission, department, institution, official, or employee, except the following, shall purchase any passenger automobile or bus with public funds:

1. The Department of Public Safety;
2. The Department of Human Services;
3. The State Department of Rehabilitation Services;
4. The Department of Wildlife Conservation;
5. The Department of Corrections;

- 1 6. The State Department of Education;
- 2 7. The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics;
- 3 8. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- 4 Control;
- 5 9. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation;
- 6 10. The Transportation Commission;
- 7 11. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
- 8 12. The State Department of Health;
- 9 13. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- 10 Services;
- 11 14. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental
- 12 Disabilities;
- 13 15. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma;
- 14 16. The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department;
- 15 17. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission;
- 16 18. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board;
- 17 19. The Department of Mines;
- 18 20. The Office of Juvenile Affairs;
- 19 21. The Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs;
- 20 22. The Oklahoma Supreme Court;
- 21 23. The District Attorneys Council and Oklahoma district
- 22 attorneys, provided adequate funding exists;
- 23 24. The Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization; ~~and~~
- 24 25. The Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission; and

1 26. The Oklahoma Historical Society.

2 B. 1. The Oklahoma School for the Deaf at Sulphur, the
3 Oklahoma School for the Blind at Muskogee, and any state institution
4 of higher education may purchase, own, or keep if now owned, or
5 acquire by lease or gift, and use and maintain such station wagons,
6 automobiles, trucks, or buses as are reasonably necessary for the
7 implementation of the educational programs of said institutions.

8 2. No bus operated, owned, or used by such educational
9 institutions shall be permitted to carry any person other than
10 students, faculty members, employees, or volunteers of such
11 institutions. The provisions of this section shall not be construed
12 to prohibit:

13 a. the operation of intracampus buses or buses routed
14 directly between portions of the campus of any
15 institution not adjacent to each other, nor to
16 prohibit the collection of fares from such students,
17 faculty members, or employees of such institutions,
18 sufficient in amount to cover the reasonable cost of
19 such transportation, or

20 b. the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma
21 School for the Deaf from entering into agreements with
22 local public school districts pursuant to the
23 Interlocal Cooperation Act for the mutual use of the
24 schools' and the districts' vehicles. Such use may

1 include, but is not limited to, the transportation of
2 students from local school districts with students
3 from the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma
4 School for the Deaf in vehicles owned by the Oklahoma
5 School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the
6 Deaf when traveling to school-related activities.

7 C. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental
8 Disabilities, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma
9 Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Oklahoma Veterans Centers
10 may own and maintain such passenger vehicles as those institutions
11 have acquired prior to May 1, 1981.

12 D. The use of station wagons, automobiles, and buses, other
13 than as provided for in this section, shall be permitted only upon
14 written request for such use by heads of departments of the
15 institution, approved in writing by the president of said
16 institution or by some administrative official of said institution
17 authorized by the president to grant said approval. Such use shall
18 be permitted only for official institutional business or activities
19 connected therewith. Such use shall be subject to the provisions of
20 Section 156.1 of this title forbidding personal use of such
21 vehicles, and to the penalties therein declared.

22 E. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
23 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by
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1 fine or imprisonment, or both, as provided for in Section 156.1 of
2 this title.

3 F. For the purpose of this section and Section 156.3 of this
4 title, a station wagon is classified as a passenger automobile and
5 may not be purchased solely for the use of transporting property.
6 Such vehicles shall include, but not be limited to, all vehicles
7 which have no separate luggage compartment or trunk but which do not
8 have open beds, whether the same are called station wagons, vans,
9 suburbans, town and country, blazers, or any other names. All state
10 boards, commissions, departments, and institutions may own and
11 maintain station wagons purchased solely for the purpose of
12 transporting property if acquired prior to July 1, 1985.

13 G. The provisions of this section and Section 156.1 of this
14 title shall not apply to public officials who are statewide elected
15 commissioners.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

17 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT
18 February 23, 2023 - DO PASS
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