

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

HOUSE BILL 2253

By: Burns

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 156, which relates to automobiles owned by the state; authorizing the purchase of certain trucks; 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;
6. The State Department of Education;
7. The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics;

1 8. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
2 Control;

3 9. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation;

4 10. The Transportation Commission;

5 11. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;

6 12. The State Department of Health;

7 13. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
8 Services;

9 14. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental
10 Disabilities;

11 15. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma;

12 16. The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department;

13 17. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission;

14 18. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board;

15 19. The Department of Mines;

16 20. The Office of Juvenile Affairs;

17 21. The Oklahoma Department of ~~Veteran~~ Veterans Affairs;

18 22. The Oklahoma Supreme Court;

19 23. The District Attorneys Council and Oklahoma district
20 attorneys, provided adequate funding exists;

21 24. The Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization; and

22 25. The Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission.

23 B. 1. The Oklahoma School for the Deaf at Sulphur, the
24 Oklahoma School for the Blind at Muskogee, and any state institution

1 of higher education may purchase, own, or keep if now owned, or
2 acquire by lease or gift, and use and maintain such station wagons,
3 automobiles, trucks, or buses as are reasonably necessary for the
4 implementation of the educational programs of said institutions.

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

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

17 b. the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma
18 School for the Deaf from entering into agreements with
19 local public school districts pursuant to the
20 Interlocal Cooperation Act for the mutual use of the
21 schools' and the districts' vehicles. Such use may
22 include, but is not limited to, the transportation of
23 students from local school districts with students
24 from the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma

1 School for the Deaf in vehicles owned by the Oklahoma
2 School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the
3 Deaf when traveling to school-related activities.

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

9 D. The Oklahoma Historical Society may purchase light-duty
10 trucks weighing eight thousand five hundred (8,500) pounds or less
11 to use at state facilities in order to equip vehicles as necessary
12 to maintain historic properties and sites. Such use may include,
13 but is not limited to, the transportation of livestock and hauling
14 of heavy equipment.

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

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

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

15 ~~G.~~ H. The provisions of this section and Section 156.1 of this
16 title shall not apply to public officials who are statewide elected
17 commissioners.

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