

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 POLICY COMMITTEE
4 RECOMMENDATION

5 FOR

6 HOUSE BILL NO. 3757

7 By: Sterling

8 POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

9 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority;
10 amending 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1705, as amended by
11 Section 572, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2025 (69 O.S. Supp.
12 2025, Section 1705), which relates to Oklahoma
13 Turnpike Authority powers and duties; stating
14 applicability; making determination of certain date
15 of legislative authorization; making certain
16 requirements of Oklahoma Turnpike Authority for
17 turnpike projects; requiring certain projects lapse
18 if deadline is not met; stating no impairment to
19 certain contracts or revenues; requiring certain
20 report be filed; defining term; and providing an
21 effective date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1705, as
24 amended by Section 572, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2025 (69 O.S. Supp.
2025, Section 1705), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1705. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby
authorized and empowered:

1 (a) To adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and
2 conduct of its business.

3 (b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure.

4 (c) To maintain an office at such place or places within the
5 state as it may designate.

6 (d) To sue and be sued in contract, reverse condemnation,
7 equity, mandamus and similar actions in its own name, plead and be
8 impleaded; provided, that any and all actions at law or in equity
9 against the Authority shall be brought in the county in which the
10 principal office of the Authority shall be located, or in the county
11 of the residence of the plaintiff, or the county where the cause of
12 action arose. All privileges granted to the Authority and duties
13 enjoined upon the Authority by the provisions of Sections 1701
14 through 1734 of this title may be enforced in a court of competent
15 jurisdiction in an action in mandamus.

16 (e) To construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike
17 projects and highways, with their access and connecting roads, at
18 such locations and on such routes as it shall determine to be
19 feasible and economically sound; provided, that until specifically
20 authorized by the Legislature, the Authority shall be authorized to
21 construct and operate toll turnpikes only at the following
22 locations:

23 (1) The Turner Turnpike between Oklahoma City and Tulsa.
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1 (2) The Southwestern (H.E. Bailey) Turnpike between Oklahoma
2 City and Wichita Falls, Texas.

3 (3) The Northeastern (Will Rogers) Turnpike between Tulsa and
4 Joplin, Missouri.

5 (4) The Eastern (Indian Nation) Turnpike between Tulsa and
6 Paris, Texas, including all or any part thereof between McAlester
7 and the Red River south of Hugo.

8 (5) The Cimarron Turnpike between Tulsa and Interstate Highway
9 35 north of Perry, including a connection to Stillwater.

10 (6) The Muskogee Turnpike between Broken Arrow and Interstate
11 Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls.

12 (7) All or any part of an extension of the Muskogee Turnpike,
13 beginning at a point on Interstate Highway 40 near the present south
14 terminus of the Muskogee Turnpike, and extending in a southeasterly
15 direction on an alignment near Stigler, Poteau and Heavener to the
16 vicinity of the Arkansas State Line to furnish access to Hot
17 Springs, Texarkana, Shreveport and New Orleans.

18 (8) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of
19 Luther, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of the intersection of State
20 Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike in Creek County, Oklahoma, or in the
21 vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike
22 or U.S. Highway 66 in Creek County, Oklahoma, from any monies
23 available to the Authority.

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1 (9) Add on the Will Rogers Turnpike a northbound automatic
2 tollgate onto State Highway 28 and a southbound on-ramp from State
3 Highway 28.

4 (10) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the
5 vicinity of Duncan extending east to the vicinity of the City of
6 Davis, and extending in a northeasterly direction, by way of the
7 vicinity of the City of Ada, to a connection in the vicinity of
8 Henryetta or in the vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 48
9 and Interstate 40; and a turnpike or any part or parts thereof from
10 the vicinity of Snyder extending north to the vicinity of Woodward.

11 (11) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a
12 point in the vicinity of Ponca City, or at a point on the Kansas-
13 Oklahoma state boundary line east of the Arkansas River and west of
14 the point where Oklahoma State Highway No. 18 intersects said state
15 boundary line, and extending in a southeasterly direction to a
16 connection with the Tulsa Urban Expressway System in the general
17 area of the Port of Catoosa.

18 (12) All or any part of an Oklahoma City toll expressway system
19 connecting the residential, industrial and State Capitol Complex in
20 the north part of Oklahoma City with the residential, industrial and
21 Will Rogers World Airport Complex in the south and southwest parts
22 of Oklahoma City.

23 (13) A turnpike (The Industrial Parkway) or any part or parts
24 thereof beginning at a point on the Oklahoma-Kansas state boundary

1 line between the point where U.S. Highway 66 intersects the boundary
2 line and the northeast corner of Oklahoma and ending by means of a
3 connection or connections with Shreveport, Louisiana, and Houston,
4 Texas, in southeastern Oklahoma and at no point to exceed thirty
5 (30) miles west of the Missouri or Arkansas border.

6 (14) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the
7 vicinity of Velma or County Line to a point intersecting with
8 Interstate 35 in the area south of Davis.

9 (15) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the
10 vicinity of Watonga and extending south and/or east to the vicinity
11 of north and/or west Oklahoma City.

12 (16) A tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike near the
13 intersection of State Highway 137 and the Will Rogers Turnpike,
14 located south of Quapaw.

15 (17) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of
16 Porter, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike in the
17 vicinity of Adair, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in
18 the vicinity of Luther, Oklahoma, and a tollgate on the H.E. Bailey
19 Turnpike at Elgin, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the
20 Authority.

21 (18) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of
22 Wellston, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

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1 (19) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of
2 Brushy Mountain, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of Elm Grove,
3 Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

4 (20) All or any part of an Oklahoma City Outer Loop expressway
5 system beginning in the vicinity of I-35 and the Turner Turnpike and
6 extending west into Canadian County and then south to I-40; and then
7 south and east to I-35 in the vicinity of Moore and Norman; and then
8 extending east and north to I-40 east of Tinker Field; and then
9 extending north to the Turner Turnpike to complete the Outer Loop.

10 (21) All or any part of the Tulsa south bypass expressway
11 system beginning in the vicinity of the Turner Turnpike near Sapulpa
12 and extending south and east to U.S. 75 in the vicinity of 96th
13 Street to 121st Street; and then east across the Arkansas River to a
14 connection with the Mingo Valley Expressway; and then south and/or
15 east to a point on the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line near 131st Street
16 south in the city of Broken Arrow.

17 (22) A new turnpike or any part thereof from near the west gate
18 of the Will Rogers Turnpike south to the west end of south Tulsa
19 Turnpike at the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line.

20 (23) A new turnpike or any parts thereof from the vicinity of
21 the connection between State Highway 33 and U.S. 69 easterly to the
22 Arkansas State Line.

23 (24) A four-lane extension of the Muskogee Turnpike from
24 Interstate Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls to the Poteau vicinity.

1 (25) A new turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a
2 point in the vicinity of northwest Tulsa, and extending in a
3 northwesterly direction, by means of a connection or connections
4 with the cities of Pawhuska and Newkirk, to a point intersecting in
5 the vicinity of U.S. Highway No. 77 and the Kansas State Line.

6 (26) A full access interchange on the Indian Nation Turnpike
7 south of Interstate 40, in the vicinity of Henryetta, Oklahoma, and
8 in the vicinity of the proposed theme park, museum or an industrial
9 facility which qualifies for the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act,
10 from any monies available to the Authority.

11 (27) A new turnpike beginning at a point directly west of the
12 Arkansas line and four-laning Highway 70 from that point to the
13 farthest western reach of Highway 70 creating a southern route
14 through Oklahoma.

15 (28) A new turnpike and bridge or any parts thereof from a
16 point in the vicinity of the city of Mustang southerly across the
17 South Canadian River to the H.E. Bailey Turnpike in the vicinity of
18 the city of Tuttle; and then easterly across the South Canadian
19 River to a point in the vicinity of the city of Norman.

20 (29) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point
21 in the vicinity of the city of Altus and extending in a
22 northwesterly direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of
23 Sayre.

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1 (30) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point
2 in the vicinity of the city of Enid and extending in a westerly
3 direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of Woodward.

4 (31) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof at Fletcher,
5 Oklahoma, in the vicinity of the Interstate 44 and State Highway 277
6 intersection. Any existing on- or off-ramp or any parts thereof in
7 the vicinity of Fletcher, Oklahoma, shall not be removed and shall
8 be maintained pursuant to Section 1701 et seq. of this title.

9 (32) A new bridge crossing the Arkansas River between South
10 Delaware Avenue and Memorial Drive in Tulsa County. This project
11 shall commence upon a determination by the Oklahoma ~~Transportation~~
12 Turnpike Authority that such bridge shall be self-sufficient at some
13 point over a thirty-year time period from the toll charges
14 associated with the bridge project.

15 (33) An exit ramp or any parts thereof from the eastbound lane
16 of the Turner Turnpike at 96th Street in Tulsa.

17 (34) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof on the Cimarron
18 Turnpike in the vicinity of the northside of the Glencoe, Oklahoma,
19 municipal limits.

20 (35) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at
21 Interstate 44 at or near its intersection with 49th West Avenue,
22 past State Highway 64/412, turning northeasterly, crossing 41st West
23 Avenue, and continuing eastward to the L.L. Tisdale Expressway in
24 Tulsa, Oklahoma.

1 All access roads, interchanges, or lead roads connecting such
2 turnpikes with existing highways must be built by funds furnished by
3 the Authority.

4 The minimum and maximum wages for the construction of the roads,
5 highways and projects provided for in Sections 1701 through 1734 of
6 this title shall be in accordance with the schedules of wages used
7 or adopted by the Commission in construction of state highways.

8 The Authority is hereby authorized to enter into contracts or
9 agreements with agencies and instrumentalities of other states or
10 the national government for construction, maintenance and operation
11 of interstate turnpikes or highways.

12 The Authority is hereby required to construct and install
13 automatic tollgates on the Will Rogers Turnpike at State Highway No.
14 28 near Adair.

15 (f) To issue turnpike revenue bonds of the Authority, payable
16 solely from revenues, including the revenues accruing to the trust
17 fund created by Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title, for the
18 purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any one or more
19 turnpike projects. Provided that any bonds issued for the
20 construction of the proposed turnpike referred to in subparagraphs
21 (10), (20), (21) and (22) of paragraph (e) of this section shall be
22 issued as one issue for all four of the proposed turnpikes and shall
23 be financed, constructed and operated under one bond indenture.

1 (g) To fix and revise from time to time tolls for the use of
2 any turnpike projects.

3 Any common carrier having authority at the time of opening any
4 turnpike project to operate upon a highway approximately paralleling
5 the turnpike project shall be granted without further showing
6 authority to operate over the turnpike project to all municipalities
7 which such carrier is serving at the time the turnpike project is
8 opened to traffic. But nothing herein shall be construed as
9 granting any new operation rights to any common carriers.

10 (h) To acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property
11 in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties.

12 (i) To acquire in the name of the Authority by purchase or
13 otherwise on such terms and conditions and in such manner as it may
14 deem proper, or by exercise of the right of condemnation in manner
15 hereinafter provided, such public or private lands, including public
16 parks, playgrounds, or reservations, or parts thereof or rights
17 therein, rights-of-way, property, rights, easements, and interests,
18 as it may deem necessary for carrying out the provisions of Sections
19 1701 through 1734 of this title; provided, that all public property
20 damaged in carrying out the powers granted by Sections 1701 through
21 1734 of this title shall be restored or repaired and placed in its
22 original condition as nearly as practicable.

23 (j) To designate, except as is provided for herein, the
24 location, and establish, limit and control such points of ingress to

1 and egress from each turnpike project as may be necessary or
2 desirable in the judgment of the Authority to insure the proper
3 operation and maintenance of such project, and to prohibit entrance
4 to such project from any point or points not so designated.

5 (k) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements
6 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the
7 execution of its powers, and to employ consulting engineers,
8 attorneys, accountants, construction and financial experts,
9 superintendents, managers, and such other employees and agents as
10 may be necessary in its judgment, and to fix their compensation;
11 provided, that all such expenses shall be payable solely from the
12 proceeds of turnpike revenue bonds issued under the provisions of
13 Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title or from revenues; provided,
14 further, no attorney employed by the Authority, nor any member of
15 any law firm of which the attorney may be connected, shall ever be
16 paid any fee or compensation for any special or extraordinary
17 services.

18 (l) To receive and accept from any federal agency grants for or
19 in aid of the construction of any turnpike project, provided, the
20 acceptance of such grants will not reduce the amount of federal aid
21 for the construction, repair, or maintenance of farm-to-market roads
22 and other highways and bridges in this state; and to receive and
23 accept aid or contributions from any source of either money,
24 property, labor, or other things of value, to be held, used, and

1 applied only for the purposes for which such grants and
2 contributions may be made.

3 (m) To adopt such rules, and to do any and all things necessary
4 to comply with rules, regulations, or requirements of the Bureau of
5 Public Roads, Multistate Economic Development Regional Commission,
6 as defined in Sections 1151 through 1153, inclusive, of Title 74 of
7 the Oklahoma Statutes, Ozarka Region Commission or any other federal
8 agency administering any law enacted by the Congress of the United
9 States to aid or encourage the construction of highways.

10 (n) To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the
11 powers expressly granted in Sections 1701 through 1734 of this
12 title. The design standards for all paving shall comply with the
13 design standards of the American Association of State Highway and
14 Transportation Officials as modified by the Oklahoma Department of
15 Transportation. All contracts for construction work on turnpike
16 projects shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or bidders,
17 after notice by publication in a newspaper published in the county
18 where the work is to be done in two consecutive weekly issues of the
19 newspaper. In all cases where more than eight (8) miles of
20 construction is let at the same time and is not an advertisement for
21 a surface-treatment-only project, such advertisement shall provide
22 for bids on sections of the turnpike not to exceed eight (8) miles.
23 If the project advertised is a surface-treatment-only project of
24 more than twenty (20) miles of road, the advertisement shall provide

1 for bids on sections of the road no longer than twenty (20) miles,
2 as well as bids on the project as a whole. Subject to the following
3 restrictions and limitations, the Authority shall, when contracting
4 for construction work, divide such work into paving projects, bridge
5 projects, including underpasses and overpasses, and earthmoving or
6 miscellaneous projects, according to the type of work to be done.
7 Each project shall be let under a separate contract or contracts and
8 no contract or project shall include more than one of such types of
9 construction work. Each contract for construction work shall
10 contain a provision that ninety percent (90%) of all labor employed
11 on the project shall be residents of Oklahoma. However, contracts
12 for bridges may include earthwork and structures for the approaches
13 thereto.

14 (o) It shall be unlawful for any member, officer or employee of
15 the Authority to transact with the Authority, either directly or
16 indirectly, any business for profit of such member, officer, or
17 employee; and any person, firm, or corporation knowingly
18 participating therein shall be equally liable for violation of this
19 provision.

20 The term "business for profit" shall include, but not be limited
21 to, the acceptance or payment of any fee, commission, gift, or
22 consideration to such member, officer, or employee.

23 Violation of this provision shall constitute a Class D1 felony
24 offense punishable by incarceration as provided for in subsections B

1 through F of Section 20N of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or a
2 fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and not more
3 than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such imprisonment
4 and fine.

5 (p) In the event of a national emergency, the Authority,
6 subject to any vested rights or claims, may enter into contracts
7 with the federal government or any authorized agency thereof to
8 allow the federal government or agency thereof to use such turnpikes
9 partly or exclusively during the existence of such emergency,
10 provided, that the federal government agrees in such contract to
11 pay, during the term of such contract, an amount sufficient, when
12 added to any tolls collected, to meet all operating and maintenance
13 expenses, interest payments, and the minimum sinking fund and
14 reserve requirements of the trust agreement for the turnpike covered
15 by the contract.

16 (q) All meetings of the Authority shall be open public
17 meetings, and all records shall be public records, except when
18 considering personnel or litigation.

19 (r) (1) This subsection applies to all locations authorized
20 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, including authorizations
21 enacted before the effective date of this act. For any such prior
22 authorization, the "date of legislative authorization" referenced in
23 paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be deemed to be the effective
24 date of this act.

1 (2) For each location authorized by the Legislature pursuant to
2 subsection (e) of this section, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority
3 shall:

4 (A) Commence construction within seven (7) years after the
5 date of legislative authorization; provided, however,
6 that no construction may commence prior to the final
7 completion of all applicable federal or state
8 environmental reviews, and

9 (B) Place the project, or an operable segment thereof,
10 into service within ten (10) years after the date
11 identified in subdivision A of this paragraph.

12 (3) If a deadline established by this subsection is not met,
13 the legislative authorization for that project or segment shall
14 automatically lapse and be of no further force or effect; provided,
15 nothing herein shall be construed to impair the obligation of
16 contracts or pledged revenues securing outstanding bonds pursuant to
17 Section 1709 of this title.

18 (4) Within sixty (60) days after any lapse under this
19 subsection, the Authority shall file a report with the President Pro
20 Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma
21 House of Representatives describing project expenditures to date,
22 outstanding obligations, property acquired, and any recommendations
23 regarding reauthorization.

1 (5) For the purposes of this subsection, "commence
2 construction" means issuance by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority of a
3 notice to proceed under a construction contract for physical work
4 within the project footprint, including but not limited to,
5 clearing, grading, structures, paving, or utility relocations that
6 are part of the construction contract; the term does not include
7 planning, studies, environmental review, design, right-of-way
8 acquisition, surveying, or procurement activities. Nothing in this
9 paragraph shall be construed to permit construction to commence
10 prior to the final completion of all applicable federal or state
11 environmental reviews.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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