

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4

April 15, 2025

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1547

By: Patzkowsky and Cantrell of  
the House

and

Pederson of the Senate

An Act relating to agricultural fairs and expositions; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-24, which relates to items to be considered in expenditure of funds; modifying language; permitting consideration of certain communications and supporting equipment; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-55, which relates to election of officers and directors of the county fair association; requiring voting window; providing procedures for removal of officers and directors; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-58, which relates to items to be considered in expenditure of funds; modifying language; permitting consideration of certain communications and supporting equipment; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-70, which relates to annual levy in support and maintenance of fair; permitting use of funds for certain communications and supporting equipment; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-24, is amended to read as follows:

Section 15-24. A. The executive board shall:

1. Make an estimate of the cost of the free district fair;

1        2. Apportion to each of the counties comprising the association  
2 the portion to be borne by each member county together with the plan  
3 and items of expenditures; and

4        3. Certify the estimate to the county excise board in each of  
5 the member counties in time to be acted on by the county excise  
6 board at its annual meeting for making tax levies.

7        B. The items to be considered in the expenditure of funds shall  
8 be for:

9        1. Premiums on livestock, poultry, fruit, agriculture,  
10 horticultural and dairy products; boys' and girls' club work, school  
11 exhibits, culinary products, textile products, needlework and  
12 sewing, hand painting, decorating and drawing, and cultivated plants  
13 and flowers;

14        2. The necessary expenses of management of free district fairs  
15 organized under the provisions of this article, including office  
16 expense, postage, ~~telegraph and telephone~~, digital and electronic  
17 communication, Internet and supporting equipment, traveling expenses  
18 of secretary within the district in which the fair is held, printing  
19 (except premium lists) and necessary office supplies, premium  
20 ribbons and badges, clerical help, guards, superintendents and  
21 judges; and

22        3. Advertising the fair and for decorating and cleaning the  
23 grounds and buildings, and for caring for the grounds during the  
24 fair.

1       SECTION 2.       AMENDATORY       2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-55, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       Section 15-55. A. As soon as practicable, prior to July first,  
4 after the election of members of the county fair association, the  
5 members elect shall meet at the county seat and shall perfect an  
6 organization by the election of a president, vice president,  
7 secretary and a board of directors. The members elect shall  
8 designate a day where they shall have a twelve-hour window to vote  
9 for the election of a president, vice president, secretary, and  
10 board of directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the  
11 president, vice president, secretary and four members, and such  
12 committees and officers as shall be deemed necessary. The secretary  
13 may be selected outside of the association, but must be a resident  
14 of the county seat or the town or city where the county fair is  
15 held.

16       B. The president, vice president, secretary, or any member of  
17 the board of directors may be removed from their position for  
18 failure to attend at least fifty percent (50%) of meetings in a  
19 calendar year. The president, vice president, secretary, and  
20 members of the board of directors may be removed from their  
21 positions by a unanimous vote of all other members.

22       SECTION 3.       AMENDATORY       2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-58, is  
23 amended to read as follows:  
24

1       Section 15-58. A. The executive board, with such committee as  
2 may be selected from the county fair association, shall make an  
3 estimate of the cost of the township and county fairs, and shall  
4 certify such estimate to the county excise board in time to be acted  
5 upon by the county excise board at its annual meeting for making tax  
6 levies.

7       B. The items to be considered in the expenditure of funds shall  
8 be for:

9       1. Premiums on livestock, poultry, agricultural and  
10 horticultural products, dairy products, boys' and girls' club work,  
11 products of domestic science and domestic arts, school exhibits,  
12 hand painting, decorating and drawing, manufactured articles,  
13 cultivated plants and flowers;

14       2. Necessary expenses of management of township and county  
15 fairs organized under the provisions of this article, including  
16 office expenses, postage, ~~telegraph and telephone~~, digital and  
17 electronic communication, Internet and supporting equipment, salary  
18 and traveling expenses of the secretary, printing and necessary  
19 office supplies, premium ribbons and badges, clerical help, guards,  
20 superintendents and judges;

21       3. Advertising the fairs and for decorating and cleaning the  
22 grounds and buildings, and for caring for the grounds and buildings;  
23 and  
24

1        4. Transportation and arrangement of township fair exhibits at  
2 the county fair and county fair exhibits at the Oklahoma State Fair  
3 and other State Fairs.

4        SECTION 4.        AMENDATORY        2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-70, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6        Section 15-70. A. The county commissioners, the county excise  
7 board and all other proper officers of the county may make an annual  
8 levy upon all taxable property in the county in an amount not to  
9 exceed one-half (1/2) of one (1) mill per annum in counties of more  
10 than fifteen thousand (15,000) population. In counties of less than  
11 fifteen thousand (15,000) population, the proper officers of the  
12 county may make an annual levy upon all taxable property in the  
13 county of not exceeding one (1) mill per annum. The purpose of the  
14 levy is to raise funds for:

15        1. The support and maintenance of the fair, including the  
16 payment of premiums on livestock, poultry, agricultural and  
17 horticultural products, dairy products, boys' and girls' club work  
18 or other junior agricultural organizations which shall be in one  
19 class, products of domestic science and domestic arts, farm women's  
20 clubs, hand paintings, cultivated plants and flowers;

21        2. Necessary expenses of management of said fair, including  
22 office expenses, postage, ~~telegraph and telephone~~, digital and  
23 electronic communication, Internet and supporting equipment, salary  
24

1 and traveling expenses of the secretary, printing and necessary  
2 office supplies;

3 3. Premium ribbons and badges, clerical help, guards,  
4 superintendents and judges;

5 4. Advertising, decorating and cleaning the grounds and  
6 buildings; and

7 5. The repair of or erecting buildings owned and controlled by  
8 said county that are or will be used for free fair purposes.

9 B. In the counties of this state having a population in excess  
10 of fifty-five thousand (55,000), according to the 1940 Federal  
11 Decennial Census and in which county there is not authorized a state  
12 fair, it shall be the mandatory duty of the county commissioners and  
13 the excise board and other officers of the county, to make annual  
14 levy for the purposes specified by this section upon all taxable  
15 property in such county of not less than one-fourth (1/4) of one (1)  
16 mill per annum.

17 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON LOCAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
19 April 15, 2025 - DO PASS  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24