

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1779

By: Wingard

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to economic development; requiring
8 requests for monies submitted by the Oklahoma
9 Department of Commerce to the Legislature to include
10 certain provision; directing the Department to
11 allocate monies for certain purpose; authorizing
12 alternate use of monies for certain purposes;
13 defining term; providing for codification; providing
14 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5092.1 of Title 74, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. When the Oklahoma Department of Commerce submits requests
20 for monies from the Legislature for the purpose of funding economic
21 development projects throughout the state, thirty percent (30%) of
22 all monies within such requests shall be granted to rural counties
23 with populations of less than fifty thousand (50,000), according to
24 the most recent Federal Decennial Census.

25 B. Upon receiving funds from the Legislature for the purpose of
26 funding economic development projects throughout the state, the

1 Department shall assign thirty percent (30%) of such monies to be
2 used to fund economic development projects in counties with
3 populations of less than fifty thousand (50,000), according to the
4 most recent Federal Decennial Census. If monies allocated to such
5 counties by the Department remain unused after eighteen (18) months
6 following their allocation, the Department may utilize such monies
7 for other economic development projects throughout the state.

8 C. "Economic development" means a comprehensive process by
9 which the state enhances the economic well-being and quality of life
10 of its residents through sustainable increases in income,
11 employment, infrastructure, and access to essential services. This
12 shall encompass efforts to attract investment, promote
13 entrepreneurship, improve workforce skills, and foster innovation,
14 with the aim of achieving long-term growth within the framework of
15 applicable laws, taxpayer funding, and regulations.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

17 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
18 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
19 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
20 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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