

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1779

By: Wingard

AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

B. Upon receiving funds from the Legislature for the purpose of 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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22 60-2-2248

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