

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1861

By: Murdock

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to railroads; defining terms; providing for incorporation of certain systems at certain railroad crossings; directing the Corporation Commission and Department of Transportation to develop certain standards; requiring submission of certain report by certain date; making certain appropriation; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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 86.1 of Title 17, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Advanced detection and monitoring system" means any system capable of detecting and classifying objects such as pedestrians and vehicles at railroad crossings, using technologies such as light detection and ranging sensors, thermal sensors, and high-resolution cameras, in conjunction with artificial intelligence or machine learning;

1 2. "Hazard assessment" means the process of analyzing detected
2 objects to determine whether a safety risk exists based on
3 predefined criteria; and

4 3. "Real-time alerts" means automated notifications generated
5 to warn train crews, operations centers, or other stakeholders of
6 safety hazards.

7 B. The Corporation Commission and the Department of
8 Transportation shall identify a number of extra hazardous crossings,
9 as provided for in Section 86 of Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
10 that shall, to the extent feasible, incorporate advanced detection
11 and monitoring systems capable of:

12 1. Detecting and classifying objects along the crossing and its
13 approaches;

14 2. Analyzing object behavior in real-time to identify safety
15 risks;

16 3. Generating real-time alerts to warn train crews, operation
17 personnel, and other relevant parties of potential hazards;

18 4. Generating data sufficient to identify leading indicators of
19 potential hazards; and

20 5. Providing integration capability with existing and future
21 rail operation protocols, including positive train control (PTC)
22 systems.

23 C. The Commission and Department, in consultation with rail
24 operators and safety experts, shall:

1 1. Develop standards and specifications for the deployment of
2 advanced detection and monitoring systems at the selected extra
3 hazardous crossings;

4 2. Provide technical assistance to rail operators in
5 implementing advanced detection and monitoring systems; and

6 3. Provide financial support for the implementation of advanced
7 detection and monitoring systems from the Oklahoma Railroad
8 Maintenance Revolving Fund, as created in Section 309 of Title 66 of
9 the Oklahoma Statutes.

10 D. The Commission and Department shall, beginning November 1,
11 2028, prepare a report on the implementation of advanced detection
12 and monitoring systems at the selected extra hazardous crossings.
13 Such report shall include data on hazard detection, real-time alerts
14 issued, incidents prevented, and comparative safety data at the
15 crossing before and after implementation. Such report shall be
16 electronically submitted to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
17 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor on or
18 before December 31, 2028.

19 SECTION 2. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma
20 Railroad Maintenance Revolving Fund from any monies not otherwise
21 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for
22 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the sum of Five Million
23 Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to
24 carry out the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

60-2-3370 MSBB 1/15/2026 7:01:28 AM