## **BILL SUMMARY**

1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

Bill No.: HB1939
Version: FullPCS1
Request Number: 13053
Author: Rep. Sterling
Date: 3/6/2025
Impact: \$0

## **Research Analysis**

The proposed committee substitute to HB 1939 removes and modifies certain turnpikes the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) is authorized to construct or maintain. Additionally, the measure requires OTA to perform certain other duties.

Those duties include:

- Submitting the approval given by the Transportation Commission for any new turnpike route designs to the Governor and the Legislature;
- Collaborating with elected officials of any municipality or county in which a new route would be located;
- Filing an application with the Oklahoma Supreme Court for the approval of any bonds; and
- Holding a hearing for the approval of any new contract to undertake the design of a new route in an open and public meeting subject to the requirements of the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act. The measure outlines certain public meeting notice requirements.

Lastly, the measure directs that the Legislative authorization for any turnpike project authorized after November 1, 2025 is to expire unless OTA has approved a contract to begin project design within five years after the effective date of the authorization.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

## **Fiscal Analysis**

This measure requires that the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) shall file applications with the Oklahoma Supreme Court for approval of all bonds. OTA is a non-appropriated state agency, so this change will not directly affect the state budget.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock, House Fiscal Staff

## **Other Considerations**

OTA believes this requirement will significantly delay construction on projects, which may increase the costs of construction. Increased costs could be passed down to the users through increased rates. Rate increases do not directly impact the state budget.

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