

BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3131
Version:	POLREC
Request Number:	16589
Author:	West (Kevin)
Date:	3/3/2026
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for HB 3131 adds that the State Department of Health's rulemaking authority is confined to basic life safety standards, minimum sanitation and hygiene standards, reporting procedures for material safety events, documentation verifying occupancy limits, and staff training standards. The pcs requires a homeless shelter provider to submit documentation of lawful expenditure of state-administered funds or state-administered federal funds to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce must maintain administrative procedures related to financial compliance and funding eligibility. The proposed committee substitute provides that a provider fails to cure a material health and safety deficiency that the State Department of Health must formally notify the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Upon this notification, or upon independent determination of financial noncompliance, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce can undertake actions specified in the measure. Neither agency will have the authority to revoke or suspend local permits, zoning approvals, or certificates of occupancy. Local governments may adopt and enforce standards more stringent than those established in the measure. The Commissioner of Health will serve as the chair of the Oklahoma Homeless Shelter Standards Advisory Board and will only vote in the case of a tie. The Board will consist of nine other voting members. The Board will advise the State Department of Health regarding health and safety rule development, advise the Oklahoma Department of Commerce regarding financial reporting, and submit annual recommendations to the Legislature.

HB 3131 creates the "Oklahoma Homeless Shelter Safety and Accountability Act." The State Department of Health is authorized to make rules strictly limited to implementing minimum standards authorized in the measure. The Department does not have the authority to undertake certain actions as is established in the measure. This act does supersede any continuum of care established pursuant to federal law, but compliance with this act will be a condition of eligibility for state-administered funds and state-administered federal funds. Providers receiving federal funds directly for a federal agency are not subject to this measure.

Each provider is required submit documentation of lawful expenditure of funds to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Providers are also required to submit annual aggregate data. The State Department of Health must not condition funding eligibility on achieving specific outcomes or performance benchmarks beyond those required for state-administered funds. The State Department of Health must maintain a process for receiving complaints and no provider must retaliate against an individual who submits a complaint in good faith. A provider has 30 days upon written notice of a deficiency. If a provider fails to cure a material health and safety deficiency then the State Department of Health must formally notify the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Upon this notification, or upon independent determination of financial noncompliance, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce can undertake actions specified in the measure. Neither agency will have the authority to revoke or suspend local permits, zoning

approvals, or certificates of occupancy. Local governments may adopt and enforce standards more stringent than those established in the measure. Nothing in this act supersedes local zoning nor requires a political subdivision to approve or site a homeless facility.

The measure also creates the Oklahoma Homeless Shelter Standards Advisory Board which will have nine voting members and whose recommendations will not have the force of law unless enacted by the Legislature. The Board will advise both the State Department of Health and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce as well as submit annual recommendations to the Legislature. The measure provides for the membership of the Board, which will cease to exist five years from the effective date of the act.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.