1	ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT TO							
2	ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1024 By: Bergstrom and Jett of the Senate							
3	and							
4	Kendrix of the House							
5								
6	An Act relating to the Administrative Procedures Act; amending 75 O.S. 2021, Section 303, which relates to							
7	the procedure for adopting, amending, or repealing a rule; requiring agency to submit statement of scope prior to rulemaking; specifying contents of statement; requiring submission of statement to Secretary of State; requiring determinations by Secretary of State and Governor; prohibiting certain							
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10	actions by certain employees prior to certain determination; providing for submission and							
11	publication of certain approved statement; establishing provisions for revision of statement of							
12	scope; providing for expiration of certain statement of scope; prohibiting certain rulemaking following expiration; updating statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.							
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17	AUTHOR: Add the following House Coauthor: Cornwall and Crosswhite Hader							
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19	AUTHOR: Add the following Senate Coauthor: Bullard							
20	AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the title, enacting clause, and entire bill and insert:							
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23	"An Act relating to the Administrative Procedures Act; amending 75 O.S. 2021, Section 303, which							
24	relates to adopting, amending, or repealing a rule;							

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1 removing expedited rule repeal exception; requiring Governor or cabinet secretary approval within thirty 2 days of proposed rule notice before an agency can proceed with the rulemaking process; adding a rule alternatives analysis to rule impact statement 3 requirements; adding employee time and resource estimates to rule impact statement requirements; 4 adding federal regulation summary and comparison to rule impact statement requirements; updating 5 statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency. 6 7 8 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 10 AMENDATORY SECTION 1. 75 O.S. 2021, Section 303, is 11 amended to read as follows: 12 Section 303. A. Prior to the adoption of any rule or amendment 13 or revocation of a rule and except as provided for pursuant to the 14 expedited rule repeal process provided in Section 9 of this act, the 15 agency shall: 16 1. Cause notice of any intended action to be published in "The 17 Oklahoma Register" pursuant to subsection B of this section; 18 2. For at least thirty (30) days after publication of the notice of the intended rulemaking action, afford a comment period 19 20 for all interested persons to submit data, views, or arguments, 21 orally or in writing. The agency shall consider fully all written 22 and oral submissions respecting the proposed rule; 23 3. Hold a hearing, if required, as provided by subsection C of 24 this section;

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1 4. Consider the effect its intended action may have on the 2 various types of business and governmental entities. Except where such modification or variance is prohibited by statute or 3 constitutional constraints, if an agency finds that its actions may 4 5 adversely affect any such entity, the agency may modify its actions to exclude that type of entity, or may "tier" its actions to allow 6 7 rules, penalties, fines, or reporting procedures and forms to vary according to the size of a business or governmental entity or its 8 9 ability to comply or both. For business entities, the agency shall 10 include a description of the probable quantitative and qualitative 11 impact of the proposed rule, economic or otherwise, and use 12 quantifiable data to the extent possible, taking into account both 13 short-term and long-term consequences;

14 5. Consider the effect its intended action may have on the 15 various types of consumer groups. If an agency finds that its 16 actions may adversely affect such groups, the agency may modify its 17 actions to exclude that type of activity; and

6. When an agency provides notice pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection, the agency shall provide one (1) electronic copy of the complete text of the proposed rule, amendment, or revocation and a copy of the notice to the Governor and to the appropriate cabinet secretary. No agency may shall adopt any proposed rule, amendment, or revocation if unless, within thirty (30) days from providing notice to the Governor and the appropriate cabinet secretary, the

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1 agency receives express written disapproval approval from the Governor or the cabinet secretary. If the Governor or the cabinet 2 secretary disapproves a rule, the affected agency shall be notified 3 4 in writing of the reasons for disapproval. If, after thirty (30) 5 days of providing the notice to the Governor and the cabinet secretary, the agency has not received an express written 6 7 disapproval approval, the agency may shall not proceed with the rulemaking process. 8

9 B. The notice required by paragraph 1 of subsection A of this10 section shall include, but not be limited to:

11 1. In simple language, a brief summary of the rule;

12 2. The proposed action being taken;

The circumstances which created the need for the rule;
 The specific legal authority, including statutory citations,
 authorizing the proposed rule;

16 5. The intended effect of the rule;

17 6. If the agency determines that the rule affects business 18 entities, a request that such entities provide the agency, within 19 the comment period, in dollar amounts if possible, the increase in 20 the level of direct costs such as fees, and indirect costs such as 21 reporting, recordkeeping, equipment, construction, labor, 22 professional services, revenue loss, or other costs expected to be 23 incurred by a particular entity due to compliance with the proposed 24 rule;

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7. The time when, the place where, and the manner in which
 interested persons may present their views thereon pursuant to
 paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section;

8. Whether or not the agency intends to issue a rule impact
statement according to subsection D of this section and where copies
of such impact statement may be obtained for review by the public;

9. The time when, the place where, and the manner in which
persons may demand a hearing on the proposed rule if the notice does
not already provide for a hearing. If the notice provides for a
hearing, the time and place of the hearing shall be specified in the
notice; and

12 10. Where copies of the proposed rules may be obtained for 13 review by the public. An agency may charge persons for the actual 14 cost of mailing a copy of the proposed rules to such persons.

15 The number of copies of such notice as specified by the 16 Secretary <u>of State</u> shall be submitted to the Secretary <u>of State</u> who 17 shall publish the notice in "The Oklahoma Register" pursuant to the 18 provisions of Section 255 of this title.

Prior to or within three (3) days after publication of the notice in "The Oklahoma Register", the agency shall cause a copy of the notice of the proposed rule adoption and the rule impact statement, if available, to be mailed to all persons who have made a timely request of the agency for advance notice of its rulemaking proceedings. Provided, in lieu of mailing copies, an agency may

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electronically notify interested persons that a copy of the proposed rule and the rule impact statement, if available, may be viewed on the agency's website. If an agency posts a copy of the proposed rule and rule impact statement on its website, the agency shall not charge persons for the cost of downloading or printing the proposed rule or impact statement. Each agency shall maintain a listing of persons or entities requesting such notice.

8 C. 1. If the published notice does not already provide for a 9 hearing, an agency shall schedule a hearing on a proposed rule if, 10 within thirty (30) days after the published notice of the proposed 11 rule adoption, a written request for a hearing is submitted by:

- 12 a. at least ten persons,
- 13 b. a political subdivision,
- 14 c. an agency, or

15 d. an association having not less than twenty-five
 16 members.

At that hearing persons may present oral argument, data, andviews on the proposed rule.

A hearing on a proposed rule may not be held earlier than
 thirty (30) days after notice of the hearing is published pursuant
 to subsection B of this section.

3. The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to prevent an agency from holding a hearing or hearings on the proposed rule although not required by the provisions of this subsection;

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1 provided, that notice of such hearing shall be published in "The 2 Oklahoma Register" at least thirty (30) days prior to such hearing. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an 3 D. 4 agency shall issue a rule impact statement of a proposed rule prior 5 to or within fifteen (15) days after the date of publication of the notice of proposed rule adoption. The rule impact statement may be 6 7 modified after any hearing or comment period afforded pursuant to the provisions of this section. 8 9 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the rule impact statement shall include, but not be limited to: 10 11 a brief description of the purpose of the proposed a. 12 rule, 13 b. a description of the classes of persons who most 14 likely will be affected by the proposed rule, 15 including classes that will bear the costs of the 16 proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts 17 received by the agency from any private or public 18 entities, 19 a description of the classes of persons who will с. 20 benefit from the proposed rule, 21 d. a description of the probable economic impact of the 22 proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or 23 political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee 24

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changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change,

e. the probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency,

- 10 f. a determination of whether implementation of the 11 proposed rule will have an economic impact on any 12 political subdivisions or require their cooperation in 13 implementing or enforcing the rule,
- 14 g. a determination of whether implementation of the 15 proposed rule may have an adverse economic effect on 16 small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small 17 Business Regulatory Flexibility Act,
- h. an explanation of the measures the agency has taken to
 minimize compliance costs and a determination of
 whether there are less costly or nonregulatory methods
 or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of
 the proposed rule,

i. a determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety, and environment and, if the

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1 proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks 2 to the public health, safety, and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what 3 4 extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk, 5 j. a determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety, and environment if the proposed 6 7 rule is not implemented, and k. the date the rule impact statement was prepared and if 8 9 modified, the date modified; 10 l. an analysis of alternatives to adopting the rule; 11 estimates of the amount of time that would be spent by m. 12 state employees to develop the rule and of the amount 13 of other resources that would be utilized to develop 14 the rule; and 15 a summary and preliminary comparison of any existing n. 16 or proposed federal regulations that are intended to 17 address the activities to be regulated by the proposed 18 rule. 19 3. To the extent an agency for good cause finds the preparation

of a rule impact statement or the specified contents thereof are unnecessary or contrary to the public interest in the process of adopting a particular rule, the agency may request the Governor to waive such requirement. Such request shall be in writing and shall state the agency's findings and the justification for such findings.

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1 Upon request by an agency, the Governor may also waive the rule impact statement requirements if the agency is required to implement 2 a statute or federal requirement that does not require an agency to 3 interpret or describe the requirements, such as federally mandated 4 5 provisions which afford the agency no discretion to consider less restrictive alternatives. If the Governor fails to waive such 6 7 requirement, in writing, prior to publication of the notice of the intended rulemaking action, the rule impact statement shall be 8 The determination to waive the rule impact statement 9 completed. 10 shall not be subject to judicial review.

11 4. The rule shall not be invalidated on the ground grounds that 12 the contents of the rule impact statement are insufficient or 13 inaccurate.

14 Upon completing the requirements of this section, an agency Ε. 15 may adopt a proposed rule. No rule is valid unless adopted in 16 substantial compliance with the provisions of this section. 17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025. 18 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation 19 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby 20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and 21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval." 22

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1	ENGROSSED SENATE						
2	BILL NO. 1024 By: Bergstrom and Jett of the Senate						
3	and						
4	Kendrix of the House						
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6	An Act relating to the Administrative Procedures Act;						
7	amending 75 O.S. 2021, Section 303, which relates to the procedure for adopting, amending, or repealing a rule; requiring agency to submit statement of scope prior to rulemaking; specifying contents of statement; requiring submission of statement to Secretary of State; requiring determinations by Secretary of State and Governor; prohibiting certain actions by certain employees prior to certain determination; providing for submission and publication of certain approved statement;						
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12	establishing provisions for revision of statement of scope; providing for expiration of certain statement of scope; prohibiting certain rulemaking following expiration; updating statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.						
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14	effective date, and declaring an emergency.						
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16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:						
17	SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 75 O.S. 2021, Section 303, is						
18	amended to read as follows:						
19	Section 303. A. Any agency seeking to promulgate or amend any						
20	emergency or permanent rule or rules shall prepare a statement of						
21	scope of the rule or rules that it plans to promulgate. The						
22	statement shall include:						
23	1. A description of the objective of the rule or rules;						
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1	2. A description of any existing policies or provisions
2	included in the rule or rules, the newly proposed policies or
3	provisions to be included in the rule or rules, and an analysis of
4	alternatives to adopting the rule or rules;
5	3. The statutory authority for promulgating the rule or rules;
6	4. Estimates of the amount of time that would be spent by state
7	employees to develop the rule or rules and of other resources that
8	would be utilized to develop the rule or rules;
9	5. A description of all of the entities, whether public or
10	private, that may be affected by the rule or rules; and
11	6. A summary and preliminary comparison of any existing or
12	proposed federal regulation that is intended to address the
13	activities to be regulated by the rule or rules proposed to be
14	promulgated.
15	B. 1. An agency that has prepared a statement of scope of any
16	proposed rule or rules shall present that statement to the Secretary
17	of State. The Secretary of State shall make a determination as to
18	whether the agency has the explicit authority to promulgate the rule
19	or rules as proposed in the statement of scope and shall report the
20	statement of scope and such determination to the Governor who, in
21	his or her discretion, may approve or reject the statement of scope.
22	2. The agency shall not begin promulgating the rule or rules
23	pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act until the Governor
24	issues a written notice of approval of the statement of scope.

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1	Except for activity necessary to prepare the statement of scope of
2	the proposed rule or rules, no state employee or official may
3	perform any activity in connection with the drafting of any proposed
4	rule or rules until the Governor approves the statement of scope.
5	C. 1. If the Governor approves a statement of scope for any
6	proposed rule or rules, the agency shall send an electronic copy of
7	the statement to the Secretary of State, in the form and manner
8	prescribed by the Secretary of State, for publication in "The
9	Oklahoma Register". The agency shall include with any statement of
10	scope sent to the Secretary of State the date of the Governor's
11	approval of the statement of scope. The Secretary of State shall
12	assign a discrete identifying number to each statement of scope and
13	shall include that number and the date of the Governor's approval in
14	the publication of the statement of scope.
15	2. On the same day that the agency sends the statement to the
16	chairs of the Administrative Rules Committees of the Senate and the
17	House of Representatives.
18	D. If at any time after a statement of scope is approved under
19	subsection B of this section, the agency changes the scope of the
20	proposed rule or rules in any meaningful or measurable way,
21	including changing the scope of the proposed rule or rules so as to
22	include in the scope any activity, business, material, or product
23	that is not specifically included in the original scope, the agency
24	shall prepare and obtain approval of a revised statement of scope in

1	the same manner as the original statement was prepared and approved
2	under subsection B of this section. No state employee may perform
3	any activity in connection with the drafting of the proposed rule or
4	rules except for an activity necessary to prepare the revised
5	statement of scope until the revised statement is approved.
6	E. A statement of scope shall expire thirty (30) months after
7	the date on which it is published in "The Oklahoma Register". After
8	a statement of scope expires, an agency may not submit a proposed
9	rule based upon that statement of scope to the Legislature for
10	review, and any such rule that has not been submitted to the
11	Legislature for review before that date shall be considered
12	withdrawn on such date. For purposes of this subsection, a revised
13	statement of scope prepared under subsection D of this section shall
14	expire on the date that is thirty (30) months after the date on
15	which the revised statement is published in "The Oklahoma Register".
16	<u>F.</u> Prior to the adoption of any rule or amendment or revocation
17	of a rule and except as provided for pursuant to the expedited rule
18	repeal process provided in Section 9 of this act, the agency shall:
19	1. Cause notice of any intended action to be published in "The
20	Oklahoma Register" pursuant to subsection $\frac{B}{G}$ of this section;
21	2. For at least thirty (30) days after publication of the
22	notice of the intended rulemaking action, afford a comment period
23	for all interested persons to submit data, views, or arguments,
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1 orally or in writing. The agency shall consider fully all written
2 and oral submissions respecting the proposed rule;

3 3. Hold a hearing, if required, as provided by subsection C <u>H</u>
4 of this section;

5 4. Consider the effect its intended action may have on the various types of business and governmental entities. Except where 6 such modification or variance is prohibited by statute or 7 constitutional constraints, if an agency finds that its actions may 8 9 adversely affect any such entity, the agency may modify its actions to exclude that type of entity, or may "tier" its actions to allow 10 rules, penalties, fines, or reporting procedures and forms to vary 11 according to the size of a business or governmental entity or its 12 ability to comply or both. For business entities, the agency shall 13 include a description of the probable quantitative and qualitative 14 impact of the proposed rule, economic or otherwise, and use 15 quantifiable data to the extent possible, taking into account both 16 short-term and long-term consequences; 17

18 5. Consider the effect its intended action may have on the 19 various types of consumer groups. If an agency finds that its 20 actions may adversely affect such groups, the agency may modify its 21 actions to exclude that type of activity; and

6. When an agency provides notice pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection, the agency shall provide one (1) electronic copy of the complete text of the proposed rule, amendment, or revocation and

1 a copy of the notice to the Governor and to the appropriate cabinet 2 secretary. No agency may adopt any proposed rule, amendment, or revocation if, within thirty (30) days from providing notice to the 3 Governor and the appropriate cabinet secretary, the agency receives 4 5 express written disapproval from the Governor or the cabinet secretary. If the Governor or the cabinet secretary disapproves a 6 rule, the affected agency shall be notified in writing of the 7 reasons for disapproval. If, after thirty (30) days of providing 8 9 the notice to the Governor and the cabinet secretary, the agency has 10 not received an express written disapproval, the agency may proceed with the rulemaking process. 11

B. G. The notice required by paragraph 1 of subsection A F of
this section shall include, but not be limited to:

14 1. In simple language, a brief summary of the rule;

15 2. The proposed action being taken;

3. The circumstances which created the need for the rule;
4. The specific legal authority, including statutory citations,
authorizing the proposed rule;

19 5. The intended effect of the rule;

6. If the agency determines that the rule affects business entities, a request that such entities provide the agency, within the comment period, in dollar amounts if possible, the increase in the level of direct costs such as fees, and indirect costs such as reporting, recordkeeping, equipment, construction, labor,

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professional services, revenue loss, or other costs expected to be incurred by a particular entity due to compliance with the proposed rule;

7. The time when, the place where, and the manner in which
interested persons may present their views thereon pursuant to
paragraph 3 of subsection A F of this section;

8. Whether or not the agency intends to issue a rule impact statement according to subsection $\frac{1}{2}$ of this section and where copies of such impact statement may be obtained for review by the public;

9. The time when, the place where, and the manner in which persons may demand a hearing on the proposed rule if the notice does not already provide for a hearing. If the notice provides for a hearing, the time and place of the hearing shall be specified in the notice; and

16 10. Where copies of the proposed rules may be obtained for 17 review by the public. An agency may charge persons for the actual 18 cost of mailing a copy of the proposed rules to such persons.

19 The number of copies of such notice as specified by the 20 Secretary <u>of State</u> shall be submitted to the Secretary <u>of State</u> who 21 shall publish the notice in "The Oklahoma Register" pursuant to the 22 provisions of Section 255 of this title.

23 Prior to or within three (3) days after publication of the 24 notice in "The Oklahoma Register", the agency shall cause a copy of

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1 the notice of the proposed rule adoption and the rule impact 2 statement, if available, to be mailed to all persons who have made a timely request of the agency for advance notice of its rulemaking 3 proceedings. Provided, in lieu of mailing copies, an agency may 4 5 electronically notify interested persons that a copy of the proposed rule and the rule impact statement, if available, may be viewed on 6 the agency's website. If an agency posts a copy of the proposed 7 rule and rule impact statement on its website, the agency shall not 8 9 charge persons for the cost of downloading or printing the proposed rule or impact statement. Each agency shall maintain a listing of 10 persons or entities requesting such notice. 11

12 C. H. 1. If the published notice does not already provide for 13 a hearing, an agency shall schedule a hearing on a proposed rule if, 14 within thirty (30) days after the published notice of the proposed 15 rule adoption, a written request for a hearing is submitted by:

- 16
- a. at least ten persons,
- 17 b. a political subdivision,
- 18 c. an agency, or
- 19 d. an association having not less than twenty-five
 20 members.

21 At that hearing persons may present oral argument, data, and 22 views on the proposed rule.

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1 2. A hearing on a proposed rule may not be held earlier than 2 thirty (30) days after notice of the hearing is published pursuant 3 to subsection $\frac{1}{2}$ of this section.

The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to
 prevent an agency from holding a hearing or hearings on the proposed
 rule although not required by the provisions of this subsection;
 provided, that notice of such hearing shall be published in "The
 Oklahoma Register" at least thirty (30) days prior to such hearing.

9 D. I. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an 10 agency shall issue a rule impact statement of a proposed rule prior 11 to or within fifteen (15) days after the date of publication of the 12 notice of proposed rule adoption. The rule impact statement may be 13 modified after any hearing or comment period afforded pursuant to 14 the provisions of this section.

15 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the rule16 impact statement shall include, but not be limited to:

17 a. a brief description of the purpose of the proposed

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rule,

b. a description of the classes of persons who most
likely will be affected by the proposed rule,
including classes that will bear the costs of the
proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts
received by the agency from any private or public
entities,

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- c. a description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule,
- d. a description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change,
- 8 e. the probable costs and benefits to the agency and to 9 any other agency of the implementation and enforcement 10 of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used 11 for implementation and enforcement of the proposed 12 rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, 13 including a projected net loss or gain in such 14 revenues if it can be projected by the agency,
- 15 f. a determination of whether implementation of the 16 proposed rule will have an economic impact on any 17 political subdivisions or require their cooperation in 18 implementing or enforcing the rule,
- g. a determination of whether implementation of the
 proposed rule may have an adverse economic effect on
 small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small
 Business Regulatory Flexibility Act,
- h. an explanation of the measures the agency has taken tominimize compliance costs and a determination of

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whether there are less costly or nonregulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule,

- i. a determination of the effect of the proposed rule on
 the public health, safety, and environment and, if the
 proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks
 to the public health, safety, and environment, an
 explanation of the nature of the risk and to what
 extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk,
- j. a determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety, and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented, and
- 13 k. the date the rule impact statement was prepared and if14 modified, the date modified.

To the extent an agency for good cause finds the preparation 15 3. of a rule impact statement or the specified contents thereof are 16 unnecessary or contrary to the public interest in the process of 17 adopting a particular rule, the agency may request the Governor to 18 waive such requirement. Such request shall be in writing and shall 19 state the agency's findings and the justification for such findings. 20 Upon request by an agency, the Governor may also waive the rule 21 impact statement requirements if the agency is required to implement 22 a statute or federal requirement that does not require an agency to 23 interpret or describe the requirements, such as federally mandated 24

provisions which afford the agency no discretion to consider less restrictive alternatives. If the Governor fails to waive such requirement, in writing, prior to publication of the notice of the intended rulemaking action, the rule impact statement shall be completed. The determination to waive the rule impact statement shall not be subject to judicial review.

7 4. The rule shall not be invalidated on the ground grounds that
8 the contents of the rule impact statement are insufficient or
9 inaccurate.

E. J. Upon completing the requirements of this section, an 10 agency may adopt a proposed rule. No rule is valid unless adopted 11 in substantial compliance with the provisions of this section. 12 13 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025. SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation 14 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby 15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and 16 17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval. 18 19 20

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1	Passed the Senate the 26th day of March, 2025.
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3	Duraiding Officen of the Consta
4	Presiding Officer of the Senate
5	Passed the House of Representatives the day of,
6	2025.
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8	Presiding Officer of the House
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