

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1961

By: Bullard

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 2-3, which relates to the President of the State Board of Agriculture; providing for removal of certain President by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-7-201, which relates to the Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs; providing for removal of certain Executive Director by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 43A O.S. 2021, Section 2-101, which relates to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; providing for removal of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 2-102, which relates to the Commissioner of Public Safety; providing for removal of certain Commissioner by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 56 O.S. 2021, Section 162, which relates to the Director of Human Services; providing for removal of certain Director by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 57 O.S. 2021, Section 506, which relates to the Director of Corrections; providing for removal of certain Director by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 62 O.S. 2021, Sections 34.5 and 34.11.1, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 193, O.S.L. 2024 (62 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 34.11.1), which relate to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES); providing for removal of Director of OMES by a majority vote of the Legislature; providing for removal of the Chief Information Officer by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-104, which relates to the State Commissioner of Health; providing for removal of Commissioner by a majority vote of the Legislature; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 427.4, as last amended

1 by Section 138, Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S.  
2 Supp. 2025, Section 427.4), which relates to the  
3 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana  
4 Authority; providing for removal of certain Executive  
5 Director by a majority vote of the Legislature;  
6 amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 683.4, which relates  
7 to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management;  
8 providing for removal of the Director of certain  
9 Department by a majority vote of the Legislature;  
10 amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 5008, which relates to  
11 the Administrator of the Oklahoma Health Care  
12 Authority; providing for removal of certain  
13 Administrator by a majority vote of the Legislature;  
14 amending 64 O.S. 2021, Section 1005, which relates to  
15 the administration of the Land Office; providing for  
16 the removal of Secretary of the Land Office by a  
17 majority vote of the Legislature; amending 69 O.S.  
18 2021, Section 305, which relates to the Director of  
19 the Department of Transportation; providing for  
20 removal of Director by a majority vote of the  
21 Legislature; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 2206,  
22 which relates to the Executive Director of the  
23 Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department; providing  
24 for removal of Executive Director by a majority vote  
25 of the Legislature; updating statutory language;  
update statutory references; and providing an  
effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2021, Section 2-3, is  
amended to read as follows:

Section 2-3. A. The at-large member appointed by the Governor,  
pursuant to Section 2-1 of this title, shall be the President of the  
State Board of Agriculture and shall serve at the pleasure of the  
Governor. The President may be removed from office by a majority  
vote of the members elected to and constituting each chamber of the  
Legislature.

1 B. The President shall be the executive officer of the Board  
2 and, in the absence of the Board, shall, subject to approval of the  
3 Board, perform all of the duties imposed by law.

4 C. The Board shall elect a ~~Secretary~~ secretary who shall not be  
5 a member of the Board. The Board shall fix the duties of the person  
6 appointed.

7 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-7-201, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Section 2-7-201. A. The Executive Director of the Office of  
10 Juvenile Affairs shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice  
11 and consent of the Senate. The Executive Director shall serve at  
12 the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced without  
13 cause. Compensation for the Executive Director shall be determined  
14 pursuant to the Governor. The Executive Director may be removed  
15 from office by a ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ majority vote of the members  
16 elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

17 B. The Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs  
18 shall be qualified for such position by character, ability,  
19 education, training, and successful administrative experience in one  
20 of the following: ~~Corrections~~ corrections, juvenile justice,  
21 juvenile delinquency, criminal justice, law, police science,  
22 criminology, psychology, sociology, administration, education, or a  
23 related social science.  
24

1 C. The Executive Director shall provide for the administration  
2 of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and shall:

3 1. Be the executive officer and supervise the activities of the  
4 Office of Juvenile Affairs;

5 2. Pursuant to legislative authorization, employ, discharge,  
6 appoint or contract with, and fix the duties and compensation of,  
7 such assistants, attorneys, law enforcement officers, probation  
8 officers, psychologists, social workers, medical professionals,  
9 administrative personnel, clerical and technical personnel,  
10 investigators, aides, and such other personnel, either on a full-  
11 time, part-time, fee or contractual basis, as in the judgment and  
12 discretion of the Executive Director shall be deemed necessary in  
13 the performance or carrying out of any of the purposes, objectives,  
14 responsibilities, or statutory provisions relating to the Office of  
15 Juvenile Affairs, or to assist the Executive Director of the Office  
16 of Juvenile Affairs in the performance of official duties and  
17 functions;

18 3. Establish internal policies and procedures for the proper  
19 and efficient administration of the Office of Juvenile Affairs; and

20 4. Exercise all incidental powers which are necessary and  
21 proper to implement the purposes of the Office of Juvenile Affairs  
22 pursuant to the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

23 D. The Executive Director shall employ an attorney to be  
24 designated the ~~"General Counsel"~~ General Counsel who shall be the

1 legal advisor for the Office of Juvenile Affairs. Except as  
2 provided in this subsection, the General Counsel is authorized to  
3 appear for and represent the Board of Juvenile Affairs and Office in  
4 any litigation that may arise in the discharge of the duties of the  
5 Board and Office.

6 It shall continue to be the duty of the Attorney General to give  
7 an official opinion to the Executive Director of the Office of  
8 Juvenile Affairs and the Office of Juvenile Affairs and to prosecute  
9 and defend actions therefor, if requested to do so. The Attorney  
10 General may levy and collect costs, expenses of litigation and a  
11 reasonable attorney fee for such legal services from the Office.  
12 The Office shall not contract for representation by private legal  
13 counsel unless approved by the Attorney General. Such contract for  
14 private legal counsel shall be in the best interests of the state.  
15 The Attorney General shall be notified by the Office of Juvenile  
16 Affairs or its counsel of all lawsuits against the Office of  
17 Juvenile Affairs or officers or employees thereof, that seek  
18 injunctive relief which would impose obligations requiring the  
19 expenditure of funds in excess of unencumbered monies in the  
20 agency's appropriations or beyond the current fiscal year. The  
21 Attorney General shall review any such cases and may represent the  
22 interests of the state, if the Attorney General considers it to be  
23 in the best interest of the state to do so, in which case the  
24 Attorney General shall be paid as provided in this subsection.

1 Representation of multiple defendants in such actions may, at the  
2 discretion of the Attorney General, be divided with counsel for the  
3 Office as necessary to avoid conflicts of interest.

4 E. The Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs  
5 shall have the authority to commission certified employees within  
6 the Office of Juvenile Affairs as peace officers. The authority of  
7 employees so commissioned shall only include the authority to  
8 investigate crimes committed against the Office or crimes committed  
9 in the course of any program administered by the Office. Employees  
10 so commissioned shall also have the authority to serve and execute  
11 process, bench warrants, and other court orders in any judicial or  
12 administrative proceeding in which the agency is a party or  
13 participant. Use and possession of firearms for this purpose only  
14 shall be permitted. To become qualified as peace officers for the  
15 commission, employees shall first obtain a certificate as provided  
16 for in Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

17 F. The Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs,  
18 based upon rules established by the Board of Juvenile Affairs, shall  
19 have the authority to appoint and commission campus police for  
20 secure juvenile facilities and their adjacent grounds under the  
21 jurisdiction of the Office of Juvenile Affairs in the same manner  
22 and with the same powers as campus police appointed by governing  
23 boards of state institutions for higher education under the  
24

1 provisions of Section 360.15 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma  
2 Statutes.

3 G. In the event of the Executive Director's temporary absence,  
4 the Executive Director may delegate the exercise of such powers and  
5 duties to a designee during the Executive Director's absence. In  
6 the event of a vacancy in the position of Executive Director, the  
7 Governor shall appoint a new Executive Director. The Board may  
8 designate an interim or acting Executive Director who is authorized  
9 to exercise such powers and duties until a permanent Executive  
10 Director is employed.

11 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 43A O.S. 2021, Section 2-101, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 2-101. A. 1. There is hereby established in this  
14 state a Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

15 2. This Department's governing board shall be the Board of  
16 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and its chief executive  
17 officer shall be the Commissioner of Mental Health and Substance  
18 Abuse Services. The Commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor  
19 with the advice and consent of the Senate and shall serve at the  
20 pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced without  
21 cause. Compensation for the Commissioner shall be determined by the  
22 Governor. The Commissioner may be removed from office by a ~~two-~~  
23 ~~thirds (2/3)~~ majority vote of the members elected to and  
24 constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

1        3. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
2 shall exercise all functions of the state in relation to the  
3 administration and operation of all state facilities for the care  
4 and treatment of the mentally ill and drug- or alcohol-dependent  
5 persons.

6        B. All references in the Oklahoma Statutes to the Department of  
7 Mental Health or the Board of Mental Health shall be construed to  
8 refer to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
9 Services or the Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services,  
10 respectively.

11        SECTION 4.        AMENDATORY        47 O.S. 2021, Section 2-102, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13        Section 2-102. A. 1. The Department of Public Safety shall be  
14 under the control of an executive officer to be known as the  
15 ~~"Commissioner~~ Commissioner of Public ~~Safety~~ Safety, who shall be  
16 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.  
17 The Commissioner of Public Safety may be removed from office by a  
18 majority vote of the members elected to and constituting each  
19 chamber of the Legislature.

20        2. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall be a professional  
21 law enforcement officer with ten (10) years' experience in the field  
22 of law enforcement or with five (5) years' experience in the field  
23 of law enforcement and a graduate of a four-year college with a  
24



1 degree in law enforcement administration, law, criminology, or a  
2 related science.

3 3. Any vacancy in the office of the Commissioner shall be  
4 filled in the same manner as the original appointment is made.

5 4. The Commissioner shall be allowed the actual and necessary  
6 expenses incurred in the performance of official duties of the  
7 Commissioner while away from the office.

8 B. The Commissioner of Public Safety, after appointment and  
9 before entering upon the discharge of duties, shall take and  
10 subscribe to the oath of office required by the Oklahoma  
11 Constitution. Bonding of the Commissioner of Public Safety and  
12 other employees of the Department will be provided under the  
13 provisions of Section ~~85-26~~ 85.58Q of Title 74 of the Oklahoma  
14 Statutes.

15 C. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall be eligible to  
16 participate in either the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement  
17 System or in the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System and  
18 shall make an irrevocable election in writing to participate in one  
19 of the two retirement systems.

20 D. Any employee of the Department of Public Safety appointed to  
21 the position of Commissioner shall have the ability to return to the  
22 previous position of the employee without any loss of rights,  
23 privileges, or benefits immediately upon completion of the duties as  
24 Commissioner, provided the employee is not otherwise disqualified

1 due to disciplinary reasons, termination of employment, or inability  
2 to effectively lead the agency.

3 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 56 O.S. 2021, Section 162, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 162. A. The Governor shall have the power and duty to  
6 select a Director of Human Services who shall serve as executive and  
7 administrative officer of the Department of Human Services. The  
8 Director shall be appointed wholly on the basis of ability, training  
9 and experience qualifying him or her for public welfare  
10 administration. The Director shall serve, subject to the  
11 confirmation of the Senate, at the pleasure of the Governor. The  
12 salary of the Director shall be fixed by the Governor. The Director  
13 may be removed from office by a majority vote of the members elected  
14 to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

15 B. The Director shall formulate the policies and adopt rules  
16 and regulations for the effective administration of the duties of  
17 the Department.

18 C. 1. The Director shall take the appropriate steps to ensure  
19 rules and policies are promulgated to conduct appropriate background  
20 searches of individuals both prior to and, if necessary, during  
21 their employment with the Department. The job categories within the  
22 Department that are subject to background searches prior to  
23 employment shall be determined at the Director's discretion. Such  
24 background checks shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. a search of the Oklahoma State Courts Network,  
including Oklahoma ~~District Court~~ district court  
records,
- b. a search of the Restricted Registry maintained by the  
Department pursuant to Section 405.3 of Title 10 of  
the Oklahoma Statutes,
- c. a search of the Department of Corrections files  
maintained by the Department pursuant to the Sex  
Offender Registration Act,
- d. a search of the Department of Corrections Violent  
Offender Registry, also known as the Mary Rippy  
Violent Crime Offender Registry,
- e. a search of all applicable out-of-state child abuse  
and neglect registries if the subject of the search  
has not lived continuously in Oklahoma for the past  
five (5) years,
- f. a search of the community services worker registry  
maintained by the Department pursuant to Section  
1025.3 of this title~~7~~1 and
- g. a fingerprint-based national criminal history record  
check. The Department may directly request a national  
criminal history record check as defined by Section  
150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes from the  
Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation for the purpose

1 of investigating the criminal history of any employee  
2 or applicant of the Department.

3 2. In addition, the Director shall ensure rules and policies  
4 are promulgated to conduct a search of the Department's records of  
5 abuse and neglect both prior to and, if necessary, during the  
6 employment of any person with the Department and whose scope of  
7 employment will bring that individual into direct contact with any  
8 vulnerable population.

9 D. The Director shall require and set the amount of the bond  
10 for employees.

11 E. The Director shall cooperate with the federal Department of  
12 Health and Human Services, or other similar agencies created by  
13 Congress, in any reasonable manner as may be necessary to qualify  
14 for federal aid to states in providing assistance to needy persons  
15 in conformity with the provisions of this title, including the  
16 making of reports in the form and containing information as a  
17 federal agency may from time to time require, and comply with any  
18 other similar federal agency requirements necessary to ensure the  
19 correctness and verification of the reports.

20 F. The Director shall publish an annual report, not later than  
21 four (4) months after the close of each fiscal year. The report  
22 shall be presented electronically to the Governor, the Speaker of  
23 the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the  
24 Senate. Annual reports shall provide information about the

1 operations and programs administered by the Department and shall  
2 include, but shall not be limited to:

3 1. Statistical information regarding services provided and the  
4 number of persons served by Department programs;

5 2. Financial data including a reasonable amount of detailed  
6 information regarding revenues and expenditures and a breakdown and  
7 comparison of the Department budget with actual expenditures;

8 3. Status of the workforce and productivity of the Department;

9 4. Information about Department efforts to ensure program  
10 accountability and service delivery quality and integrity;

11 5. Demographic data and trends and their anticipated impact on  
12 demand for services; and

13 6. Information regarding public and private institution-based  
14 services.

15 G. The Director shall assume the statutory duties of the  
16 Commission for Human Services.

17 SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 506, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 506. There is hereby created the position of Director  
20 of Corrections. The Director shall be qualified for such position  
21 by character, knowledge, skill, ability, education, training, and  
22 successful administrative experience and shall have five (5) years  
23 of professional level work. The Director of Corrections shall be  
24 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate

1 and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed  
2 or replaced without cause. Compensation for the Director shall be  
3 determined by the Governor. The Director may be removed from office  
4 by a ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ majority vote of the members elected to and  
5 constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

6 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 2021, Section 34.5, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 34.5. The Governor shall appoint a Director of the  
9 Office of Management and Enterprise Services, by and with the  
10 consent of the Senate, who shall hold office at the pleasure of the  
11 Governor and shall continue to serve until a successor is duly  
12 appointed and is qualified. The Director may be removed from office  
13 by a majority vote of the members elected to and constituting each  
14 chamber of the Legislature.

15 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 2021, Section 34.11.1, as  
16 amended by Section 1, Chapter 193, O.S.L. 2024 (62 O.S. Supp. 2025,  
17 Section 34.11.1), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 34.11.1. A. There is hereby created the position of  
19 Chief Information Officer who shall be appointed by the Governor.  
20 The Chief Information Officer, in addition to having authority over  
21 the Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
22 Enterprise Services, shall also serve as Secretary of Information  
23 Technology and Telecommunications or successor cabinet position and  
24 shall have jurisdictional areas of responsibility related to

1 information technology and telecommunications systems of all state  
2 agencies as provided for in state law. The salary of the Chief  
3 Information Officer shall not be less than One Hundred Thirty  
4 Thousand Dollars (\$130,000.00) or more than One Hundred Sixty  
5 Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00). The Chief Information Officer may  
6 be removed from office by a majority vote of the members elected to  
7 and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

8 B. Any person appointed to the position of Chief Information  
9 Officer shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

10 1. A baccalaureate degree in Computer Information Systems,  
11 Information Systems or Technology Management, Business  
12 Administration, Finance, or other similar degree;

13 2. A minimum of ten (10) years of professional experience with  
14 responsibilities for management and support of information systems  
15 and information technology, including seven (7) years of direct  
16 management of a major information technology operation;

17 3. Familiarity with local and wide-area network design,  
18 implementation, and operation;

19 4. Experience with data and voice convergence service  
20 offerings;

21 5. Experience in developing technology budgets;

22 6. Experience in developing requests for proposal and  
23 administering the bid process;

1       7. Experience managing professional staff, teams, and  
2 consultants;

3       8. Knowledge of telecommunications operations;

4       9. Ability to develop and set strategic direction for  
5 information technology and telecommunications and to manage daily  
6 development and operations functions;

7       10. An effective communicator who is able to build consensus;

8       11. Ability to analyze and resolve complex issues, both logical  
9 and interpersonal;

10       12. Effective verbal and written communications skills and  
11 effective presentation skills, geared toward coordination and  
12 education;

13       13. Ability to negotiate and defuse conflict; and

14       14. A self-motivator, independent, cooperative, flexible, and  
15 creative.

16       C. The salary and any other expenses for the Chief Information  
17 Officer shall be budgeted as a separate line item through the Office  
18 of Management and Enterprise Services. The operating expenses of  
19 the Information Services Division shall be set by the Chief  
20 Information Officer and shall be budgeted as a separate line item  
21 through the Office of Management and Enterprise Services. The  
22 Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall provide adequate  
23 office space, equipment and support necessary to enable the Chief  
24 Information Officer to carry out the information technology and



1 telecommunications duties and responsibilities of the Chief  
2 Information Officer and the Information Services Division.

3 D. 1. Within twelve (12) months of appointment, the first  
4 Chief Information Officer shall complete an assessment, which shall  
5 be modified annually pursuant to Section 35.5 of this title, of the  
6 implementation of the transfer, coordination, and modernization of  
7 all information technology and telecommunication systems of all  
8 state agencies in the state as provided for in the Oklahoma  
9 Information Services Act. The assessment shall include the  
10 information technology and telecommunications systems of all  
11 institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,  
12 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the  
13 telecommunications network known as OneNet as assembled and  
14 submitted by the Oklahoma Higher Education Chief Information  
15 Officer, as designated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
16 Education.

17 2. Within twelve (12) months of appointment, the first Chief  
18 Information Officer shall issue a report setting out a plan of  
19 action which will include the following:

- 20 a. define the shared service model organization structure  
21 and the reporting relationship of the recommended  
22 organization,
- 23 b. the implementation of an information technology and  
24 telecommunications shared services model that defines

1 the statewide infrastructure environment needed by  
2 most state agencies that is not specific to individual  
3 agencies and the shared applications that are utilized  
4 across multiple agencies,

5 c. define the services that shall be in the shared  
6 services model under the control of the Information  
7 Services Division of the Office of Management and  
8 Enterprise Services,

9 d. define the roadmap to implement the proposed shared  
10 services model. The roadmap shall include  
11 recommendations on the transfer, coordination, and  
12 modernization of all information technology and  
13 telecommunication systems of all the state agencies in  
14 the state,

15 e. recommendations on the reallocation of information  
16 technology and telecommunication resources and  
17 personnel,

18 f. a cost benefit analysis to support the recommendations  
19 on the reallocation of information technology and  
20 telecommunication resources and personnel,

21 g. a calculation of the net savings realized through the  
22 reallocation and consolidation of information  
23 technology and telecommunication resources and  
24 personnel after compensating for the cost of

1 contracting with a private consultant as authorized in  
2 paragraph 4 of this subsection, implementing the plan  
3 of action, and ongoing costs of the Information  
4 Services Division of the Office of Management and  
5 Enterprise Services, and

6 h. the information required in subsection B of Section  
7 35.5 of this title.

8 3. The plan of action report shall be presented electronically  
9 to the Governor, Speaker of the ~~Oklahoma~~ House of Representatives,  
10 and ~~the~~ President Pro Tempore of the ~~Oklahoma State~~ Senate.

11 4. The Chief Information Officer may contract with a private  
12 consultant or consultants to assist in the assessment and  
13 development of the plan of action report as required in this  
14 subsection.

15 E. The Chief Information Officer shall be authorized to employ  
16 personnel, fix the duties and compensation of the personnel, not  
17 otherwise prescribed by law, and otherwise direct the work of the  
18 personnel in performing the function and accomplishing the purposes  
19 of the Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
20 Enterprise Services.

21 F. The Information Services Division of the Office of  
22 Management and Enterprise Services shall be responsible for the  
23 following duties:  
24

1       1. Formulate and implement the information technology strategy  
2 for all state agencies;

3       2. Define, design, and implement a shared services statewide  
4 infrastructure and application environment for information  
5 technology and telecommunications for all state agencies;

6       3. Direct the development and operation of a scalable  
7 telecommunications infrastructure that supports data and voice  
8 communications reliability, integrity, and security;

9       4. Supervise the applications development process for those  
10 applications that are utilized across multiple agencies;

11       5. Provide direction for the professional development of  
12 information technology staff of state agencies and oversee the  
13 professional development of the staff of the Information Services  
14 Division of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services;

15       6. Evaluate all technology and telecommunication investment  
16 choices for all state agencies;

17       7. Create a plan to ensure alignment of current systems, tools,  
18 and processes with the strategic information technology plan for all  
19 state agencies;

20       8. Set direction and provide oversight for the support and  
21 continuous upgrading of the current information technology and  
22 telecommunication infrastructure in the state in support of enhanced  
23 reliability, user service levels, and security;

1        9. Direct the development, implementation, and management of  
2 appropriate standards, policies, and procedures to ensure the  
3 success of state information technology and telecommunication  
4 initiatives;

5        10. Recruit, hire, and transfer the required technical staff in  
6 the Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
7 Enterprise Services to support the services provided by the Division  
8 and the execution of the strategic information technology plan;

9        11. Establish, maintain, and enforce information technology and  
10 telecommunication standards;

11       12. Delegate, coordinate, and review all work to ensure quality  
12 and efficient operation of the Information Services Division of the  
13 Office of Management and Enterprise Services;

14       13. Create and implement a communication plan that disseminates  
15 pertinent information to state agencies on standards, policies,  
16 procedures, service levels, project status, and other important  
17 information to customers of the Information Services Division of the  
18 Office of Management and Enterprise Services and provide for agency  
19 feedback and performance evaluation by customers of the Division;

20       14. Develop and implement training programs for state agencies  
21 using the shared services of the Information Services Division of  
22 the Office of Management and Enterprise Services and recommend  
23 training programs to state agencies on information technology and  
24 telecommunication systems, products and procedures;

1       15. Provide counseling, performance evaluation, training,  
2 motivation, discipline, and assign duties for employees of the  
3 Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
4 Enterprise Services;

5       16. For all state agencies, approve the purchasing of all  
6 information technology and telecommunication services and approve  
7 the purchase of any information technology and telecommunication  
8 product except the following:

9           a. a purchase less than or equal to Five Thousand Dollars  
10           (\$5,000.00) if such product is purchased using a state  
11           purchase card and the product is listed on either the  
12           Approved Hardware or Approved Software list located on  
13           the Office of Management and Enterprise Services  
14           website, or

15          b. a purchase over Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) and  
16          less than or equal to Twenty-five Thousand Dollars  
17          (\$25,000.00) if such product is purchased using a  
18          state purchase card, the product is listed on an  
19          information technology or telecommunications statewide  
20          contract, and the product is listed on either the  
21          Approved Hardware or Approved Software list located on  
22          the Office of Management and Enterprise Services  
23          website;

1        17. Develop and enforce an overall infrastructure architecture  
2 strategy and associated roadmaps for desktop, network, server,  
3 storage, and statewide management systems for state agencies;

4        18. Effectively manage the design, implementation and support  
5 of complex, highly available infrastructure to ensure optimal  
6 performance, on-time delivery of features, and new products, and  
7 scalable growth;

8        19. Define and implement a governance model for requesting  
9 services and monitoring service level metrics for all shared  
10 services; and

11       20. Create the budget for the Information Services Division of  
12 the Office of Management and Enterprise Services to be submitted  
13 electronically to the Legislature each year.

14       G. The State Governmental Technology Applications Review Board  
15 shall provide ongoing oversight of the implementation of the plan of  
16 action required in subsection D of this section. Any proposed  
17 amendments to the plan of action shall be approved by the Board  
18 prior to adoption.

19       H. 1. The Chief Information Officer shall act as the  
20 Information Technology and Telecommunications Purchasing Director  
21 for all state agencies and shall be responsible for the procurement  
22 of all information technology and telecommunication software,  
23 hardware, equipment, peripheral devices, maintenance, consulting  
24 services, high technology systems, and other related information

1 technology, data processing, telecommunication, and related  
2 peripherals and services for all state agencies. The Chief  
3 Information Officer shall establish, implement, and enforce policies  
4 and procedures for the procurement of information technology and  
5 telecommunication software, hardware, equipment, peripheral devices,  
6 maintenance, consulting services, high technology systems, and other  
7 related information technology, data processing, telecommunication,  
8 and related peripherals and services by purchase, lease-purchase,  
9 lease with option to purchase, lease, and rental for all state  
10 agencies. The procurement policies and procedures established by  
11 the Chief Information Officer shall be consistent with ~~The~~ the  
12 Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act.

13 2. The Chief Information Officer, or any employee or agent of  
14 the Chief Information Officer acting within the scope of delegated  
15 authority, shall have the same power and authority regarding the  
16 procurement of all information technology and telecommunication  
17 products and services as outlined in paragraph 1 of this subsection  
18 for all state agencies as the State Purchasing Director has for all  
19 acquisitions used or consumed by state agencies as established in  
20 ~~The~~ the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act. Such authority shall,  
21 ~~consistent with the authority granted to the State Purchasing~~  
22 ~~Director pursuant to Section 85.10 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma~~  
23 ~~Statutes,~~ include the power to designate financial or proprietary  
24 information submitted by a bidder confidential and reject all



1 requests to disclose the information so designated, if the Chief  
2 Information Officer requires the bidder to submit the financial or  
3 proprietary information with a bid, proposal, or quotation.

4 I. The Information Services Division of the Office of  
5 Management and Enterprise Services and the Chief Information Officer  
6 shall be subject to the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act for the  
7 approval and purchase of all equipment, products, and services and  
8 shall also be subject to the requirements of the Public Competitive  
9 Bidding Act of 1974, ~~the Oklahoma Lighting Energy Conservation Act~~  
10 and the Public ~~Building Construction and Planning~~ Facilities Act.

11 The Chief Information Officer shall be authorized to delegate all or  
12 some of the procurement of information technology and  
13 telecommunication products and services and construction of  
14 facilities and telecommunication networks to another state entity if  
15 the Chief Information Officer determines it to be cost-effective and  
16 in the best interest of the state. The Chief Information Officer  
17 shall have authority to designate information technology and  
18 telecommunication contracts as statewide contracts and mandatory  
19 statewide contracts pursuant to Section 85.5 of Title 74 of the  
20 Oklahoma Statutes and to negotiate consolidation contracts,  
21 enterprise agreements, and high technology systems contracts. Any  
22 contract entered into by a state agency for which the Chief  
23 Information Officer has not acted as the Information Technology and  
24 Telecommunications Purchasing Director as required in this

1 subsection or subsection H of this section, shall be deemed to be  
2 unenforceable and the Office of Management and Enterprise Services  
3 shall not process any claim associated with the provisions thereof.

4 J. The Chief Information Officer shall establish, implement,  
5 and enforce policies and procedure for the development and  
6 procurement of an interoperable radio communications system for  
7 state agencies. The Chief Information Officer shall work with local  
8 governmental entities in developing the interoperable radio  
9 communications system.

10 K. The Chief Information Officer shall develop and implement a  
11 plan to utilize open source technology and products for the  
12 information technology and telecommunication systems of all state  
13 agencies.

14 L. All state agencies and authorities of this state and all  
15 officers and employees of those entities shall work and cooperate  
16 with and lend assistance to the Chief Information Officer and the  
17 Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
18 Enterprise Services and provide any and all information requested by  
19 the Chief Information Officer.

20 M. The Chief Information Officer shall prepare an annual report  
21 detailing the ongoing net ~~saving~~ savings attributable to the  
22 reallocation and consolidation of information technology and  
23 telecommunication resources and personnel and shall submit the  
24 report electronically to the Governor, the Speaker of the ~~Oklahoma~~

1 House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the  
2 ~~Oklahoma State~~ Senate.

3 N. For purposes of the Oklahoma Information Services Act,  
4 unless otherwise provided for, "state agencies" shall include any  
5 office, officer, bureau, board, commission, counsel, unit, division,  
6 body, authority, or institution of the executive branch of state  
7 government, whether elected or appointed; provided, except with  
8 respect to the provisions of subsection D of this section, the term  
9 ~~"state agencies"~~ state agencies shall not include institutions  
10 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, the Oklahoma  
11 State Regents for Higher Education, and the telecommunications  
12 network known as OneNet.

13 O. As used in this section:

14 1. "High technology system" means advanced technological  
15 equipment, software, communication lines, and services for the  
16 processing, storing, and retrieval of information by a state agency;

17 2. "Consolidation contract" means a contract for several state  
18 or public agencies for the purpose of purchasing information  
19 technology and telecommunication goods and services; and

20 3. "Enterprise agreement" means an agreement for information  
21 technology or telecommunication goods and services with a supplier  
22 who manufactures, develops, and designs products and provides  
23 services that are used by one or more state agencies.  
24

SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-104, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-104. A. The State Commissioner of Health may adopt an official seal for the State Department of Health. The State Commissioner of Health shall hold such meetings as he or she deems necessary.

B. The Commissioner shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Adopt such rules and standards as he or she deems necessary to carry out any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Public Health Code;

2. Accept and disburse grants, allotments, gifts, devises, bequests, funds, appropriations, and other property made or offered to the Department; and

3. Establish such divisions, sections, bureaus, offices, and positions in the State Department of Health as the Commissioner deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this Code.

C. The State Commissioner of Health shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced without cause. Compensation for the Commissioner shall be determined pursuant to Section 3601.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Commissioner may be removed from office by a majority vote of the members elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

1       SECTION 10.       AMENDATORY       63 O.S. 2021, Section 427.4, as  
2 last amended by Section 138, Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp.  
3 2025, Section 427.4), is amended to read as follows:

4       Section 427.4. A. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority  
5 shall employ an Executive Director and other personnel as necessary  
6 to assist the Authority in carrying out its duties. The Executive  
7 Director shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and  
8 consent of the Senate. The Executive Director shall serve at the  
9 pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced without  
10 cause. Compensation for the Executive Director shall be determined  
11 pursuant to Section 3601.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.  
12 The Executive Director may be removed from office by a majority vote  
13 of the members elected to and constituting each chamber of the  
14 Legislature.

15       B. The Authority shall not employ an individual if any of the  
16 following circumstances exist:

17       1. The individual has a direct or indirect interest in a  
18 licensed medical marijuana business; or

19       2. The individual or his or her spouse, parent, child, spouse  
20 of a child, sibling, or spouse of a sibling has an application for a  
21 medical marijuana business license pending before the Authority or  
22 is a member of the board of directors of a medical marijuana  
23 business, or is an individual financially interested in any licensee  
24 or medical marijuana business.

1 C. All officers and employees of the Authority shall be in the  
2 exempt unclassified service.

3 D. The Executive Director may delegate to any officer or  
4 employee of the Authority any of the powers of the Executive  
5 Director and may designate any officer or employee of the Authority  
6 to perform any of the duties of the Executive Director.

7 E. The Executive Director may promulgate rules governing the  
8 oversight and implementation of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and  
9 Patient Protection Act.

10 F. The Authority is hereby authorized to create employment  
11 positions necessary for the implementation of its obligations  
12 pursuant to the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection  
13 Act including, but not limited to, investigators of the Authority  
14 and a director of enforcement. The Authority, the director of  
15 enforcement, the Executive Director, investigators of the Authority,  
16 the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control,  
17 the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, and the Attorney General  
18 shall have all the powers and authority of a peace officer of this  
19 state for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Oklahoma  
20 Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act and other laws  
21 pertaining to medical marijuana, rules promulgated by the Executive  
22 Director, or criminal laws of this state. These powers shall  
23 include but not be limited to:  
24

1        1. Investigating violations or suspected violations of the  
2 Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act or other laws  
3 pertaining to medical marijuana, any rules promulgated pursuant  
4 thereto, and any violations of criminal laws of this state  
5 discovered through the course of such investigations;

6        2. Serving and executing all warrants, summonses, subpoenas,  
7 administrative citations, notices or other processes relating to the  
8 enforcement of laws regulating marijuana, concentrate, and marijuana  
9 product;

10       3. Seizing, destroying, confiscating, embargoing, or placing an  
11 administrative hold on any marijuana or marijuana product not  
12 properly logged in the inventory tracking system or untraceable  
13 product required to be in the system, altered or improperly  
14 packaged, or illegally held in violation of the Oklahoma Medical  
15 Marijuana and Patient Protection Act, any other laws of this state,  
16 or any rules promulgated by the Executive Director;

17       4. Assisting or aiding any law enforcement officer in the  
18 performance of his or her duties upon such law enforcement officer's  
19 request or the request of other local officials having jurisdiction;

20       5. Referring any evidence, reports, or charges regarding  
21 violations of any provision of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and  
22 Patient Protection Act that carries criminal penalty, or of any  
23 other criminal laws of this state, to the appropriate law  
24 enforcement authority and prosecutorial authority for action;

1       6. Aiding the enforcement authorities of this state or any  
2 county or municipality of the state, or the federal government, in  
3 prosecutions of violations of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and  
4 Patient Protection Act or any other laws of this state that carry  
5 criminal penalty involving crimes discovered during the  
6 investigation of violations or suspected violations of the Oklahoma  
7 Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act or other laws  
8 pertaining to medical marijuana or any rules promulgated pursuant  
9 thereto;

10       7. As provided in Section 427.6 of this title, requiring any  
11 business applicant or licensee to permit an inspection of licensed  
12 premises during business hours or at any time of apparent operation,  
13 marijuana equipment, and marijuana accessories, or books and  
14 records; and to permit the testing of or examination of medical  
15 marijuana, concentrate, or product;

16       8. Requiring applicants and licensees to submit complete and  
17 current applications, information and fees required by the Oklahoma  
18 Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act, the Oklahoma Medical  
19 Marijuana Waste Management Act and Sections 420 through 426.1 of  
20 this title, and approve material changes made by the applicant or  
21 licensee;

22       9. Requiring medical marijuana business licensees to submit a  
23 sample or unit of medical marijuana or medical marijuana product to  
24 the quality assurance laboratory when the Authority has reason to  
25



1 believe the medical marijuana or medical marijuana product may be  
2 unsafe for patient consumption or inhalation or has not been tested  
3 in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana  
4 and Patient Protection Act and the rules and regulations promulgated  
5 by the Executive Director. The licensee shall provide the samples  
6 or units of medical marijuana or medical marijuana products at its  
7 own expense but shall not be responsible for the costs of testing;  
8 and

9 10. Requiring medical marijuana business licensees to  
10 periodically submit samples or units of medical marijuana or medical  
11 marijuana products to the quality assurance laboratory for quality  
12 assurance purposes. Licensed growers, processors, dispensaries, and  
13 transporters shall not be required to submit samples or units of  
14 medical marijuana or medical marijuana products more than twice a  
15 year. The licensee shall provide the samples or units of medical  
16 marijuana or medical marijuana products at its own expense but shall  
17 not be responsible for the costs of testing.

18 G. All investigators of the Authority shall meet all training  
19 requirements and qualifications for peace officers as required by  
20 Section 3311 et seq. of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

21 H. During the course of an investigation, the Authority, as  
22 provided by subsection F of this section, may arrest a violator or  
23 suspected violator of any laws of this state committed in the  
24 presence of the Authority or upon the development of probable cause

1 that such crime has been committed. The Authority as provided by  
2 subsection F of this section may, upon request of a sheriff or  
3 another peace officer of this state, or any political subdivision  
4 thereof, assist in the apprehension and arrest of a violator or  
5 suspected violator of any of the laws of this state.

6 I. The Executive Director may employ or contract with  
7 attorneys, as needed, to advise the Authority on all legal matters  
8 and to appear for and represent the Executive Director and the  
9 Authority in all administrative hearings and all litigation or other  
10 proceedings which may arise in the discharge of their duties. At  
11 the request of the Executive Director, such attorneys shall assist  
12 district attorneys in prosecuting charges of violators of the  
13 Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act or any other  
14 laws of this state that carry criminal penalty involving crimes  
15 discovered during the investigation of violations or suspected  
16 violations of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection  
17 Act or other laws pertaining to medical marijuana or any rules  
18 promulgated pursuant thereto.

19 SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 683.4, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 683.4. A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma  
22 Department of Emergency Management (OEM). The Governor shall  
23 appoint a Director of the Department, with the advice and consent of  
24 the Senate, who shall be the head of the Department. The Governor

1 shall fix the salary of the Director, in cooperation with standards  
2 promulgated by the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.  
3 The Director may be removed from office by a majority vote of the  
4 members elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

5 B. The Director may employ personnel and fix their compensation  
6 in cooperation with standards promulgated by the Office of  
7 Management and Enterprise Services, and may make such expenditures  
8 within the appropriation therefor, or from such other available  
9 funds as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Oklahoma  
10 Emergency Management Act of 2003 and other programs specified by  
11 law.

12 C. The Director and other personnel of the Department shall be  
13 provided with appropriate office space, furniture, equipment,  
14 supplies, stationery, and printing in the same manner as provided  
15 for personnel of other state agencies.

16 D. The Director, subject to the direction and control of the  
17 Governor, shall be the executive head of the Department and shall  
18 serve as the chief advisor to the Governor on emergency management  
19 and shall:

20 1. Be responsible to the Governor for carrying out the programs  
21 as required by law;

22 2. Coordinate the activities of all organizations for emergency  
23 management within the state;

1       3. Maintain liaison with and cooperate with the emergency  
2 management agencies and organizations of other states and of the  
3 federal government;

4       4. Develop and maintain a comprehensive all-hazards mitigation  
5 plan for this state;

6       5. Implement the Oklahoma Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;

7       6. Have such additional authority, duties, and responsibilities  
8 authorized by the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 and as  
9 may be prescribed by the Governor; and

10       ~~7. Supervise the Office of Volunteerism in accordance with~~  
11 ~~Section 683.26 of this title; and~~

12       ~~8.~~ 7. Report quarterly to the Governor, the Speaker of the  
13 House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the  
14 Senate the balance and outstanding obligations of ~~the~~ The State  
15 Emergency Fund.

16       E. The Director shall supervise the formulation, execution,  
17 review, and revisions of the state Emergency Operations Plan as  
18 provided for by Section 683.2 of this title. The plan shall be  
19 reviewed annually and revised as necessary.

20       SECTION 12.       AMENDATORY       63 O.S. 2021, Section 5008, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22       Section 5008. A. The Administrator of the Oklahoma Health Care  
23 Authority shall have the training and experience necessary for the  
24 administration of the Authority. The Administrator shall be

1 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate  
2 and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed  
3 or replaced without cause. Compensation for the Administrator shall  
4 be determined by the Governor. The Administrator may be removed  
5 from office by a ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ majority vote of the members  
6 elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

7 B. The Administrator of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority  
8 shall be the chief executive officer of the Authority and shall act  
9 for the Authority in all matters except as may be otherwise provided  
10 by law. The powers and duties of the Administrator shall include  
11 but not be limited to:

12 1. Supervision of the activities of the Authority;

13 2. Formulation and recommendation of rules for approval or  
14 rejection by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board and  
15 enforcement of rules and standards promulgated by the Board;

16 3. Preparation of the plans, reports and proposals required by  
17 the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Act, Section 5003 et seq. of this  
18 title, other reports as necessary and appropriate, and an annual  
19 budget for the review and approval of the Board;

20 4. Employment of such staff as may be necessary to perform the  
21 duties of the Authority including but not limited to an attorney to  
22 provide legal assistance to the Authority for the state Medicaid  
23 program; and

24 5. Establishment of a contract bidding process which:

- 1           a. encourages competition among entities contracting with  
2           the Authority for state-purchased and state-subsidized  
3           health care; provided, however, the Authority may make  
4           patient volume adjustments to any managed care plan  
5           whose prime contractor is a state-sponsored,  
6           nationally accredited medical school. The Authority  
7           may also make education or research supplemental  
8           payments to state-sponsored, nationally accredited  
9           medical schools based on the level of participation in  
10          any managed care plan by managed care plan  
11          participants,
- 12          b. coincides with the state budgetary process, and
- 13          c. specifies conditions for awarding contracts to any  
14          insuring entity.

15          C. The Administrator may appoint advisory committees as  
16          necessary to assist the Authority with the performance of its duties  
17          or to provide the Authority with expertise in technical matters.

18          SECTION 13.          AMENDATORY          64 O.S. 2021, Section 1005, is  
19          amended to read as follows:

20          Section 1005. A. 1. The Land Office shall be administered by  
21          the Secretary of the Land Office under the supervision of the  
22          Commissioners of the Land Office. The Secretary shall, subject to  
23          the qualifications listed in subsection B of this section, be  
24          appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the

Commissioners of the Land Office. The Secretary may be removed from office by a majority vote of the members elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to execute, under the supervision of the Commissioners of the Land Office, the provisions of the Enabling Act of Oklahoma as it relates to the management of school lands and other public lands, the ~~Constitution of the State of Oklahoma~~ Oklahoma Constitution, and all laws, regulations, and duties pertaining to the Commissioners of the Land Office and to carry into execution the will of the Commissioners of the Land Office not in conflict with any law.

B. The Secretary of the Land Office shall:

1. Possess an advanced degree from an accredited college or university;

2. Have not less than five (5) ~~years~~ years' experience in government, law or finance; and

3. Meet other specific requirements as specified by the Commissioners of the Land Office.

C. The Secretary of the Land Office shall serve a four-year term of service concurrent with the term of the appointing Governor and the other elected officials ~~on the Commission~~ who serve as Commissioners. The Secretary may serve consecutive terms and may serve past the term of the appointing Governor only until a successor is appointed. If the appointment is terminated or if the

1 Secretary resigns, becomes incapacitated or for any reason is unable  
2 to perform the duties of the Secretary, the Commissioners may  
3 appoint an acting Secretary until a replacement may be appointed to  
4 complete the term as provided for in this section.

5 SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 305, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 305. There is hereby created the office of the Director  
8 of the Department of Transportation, who shall be appointed by the  
9 Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and who shall  
10 serve at the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced  
11 without cause. Compensation for the Director shall be determined by  
12 the Governor. The Director may be removed from office by a ~~two-~~  
13 ~~thirds~~ (2/3) majority vote of the members elected to and  
14 constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

15 SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 2206, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 2206. The chief executive officer of the Oklahoma  
18 Tourism and Recreation Department shall be the Executive Director,  
19 who shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent  
20 of the Senate, and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor  
21 and may be removed or replaced without cause. The Executive  
22 Director shall be chosen with regard to knowledge, training,  
23 experience, and ability to administer the functions of the  
24 Department. Compensation for the Executive Director shall be



1 determined pursuant to Section 3601.2 of this title. The Executive  
2 Director may be removed from office by a majority vote of the  
3 members elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.

4 SECTION 16. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.  
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