

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 HOUSE BILL 4111

By: Provenzano

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to labor; enacting the Oklahoma  
8 Workplace Competitiveness Safety Act of 2026;  
9 describing the purpose of the act; creating the  
10 Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health  
11 Administration; defining terms; describing powers and  
12 duties; allowing for voluntary private-sector  
13 participation; creating the SoonerSafe program;  
14 transferring powers and duties; appropriating funds;  
15 providing for codification; providing an effective  
16 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.1 of Title 40, unless there  
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma  
22 Workplace Competitiveness and Safety Act of 2026".

23 A. The Legislature finds that:

24 1. The federal government has significantly reduced  
enforcement, rule-making, and funding of the Occupational Safety and  
Health Administration (OSHA);

1       2. Oklahoma's oil and gas, agriculture, construction, and  
2 manufacturing sectors contribute more than Seventy-two Billion  
3 Dollars (\$72,000,000,000.00) annually to the state economy and  
4 employ hundreds of thousands of Oklahomans;

5       3. States such as Texas and Georgia have successfully  
6 implemented state-level safety programs that shield employers from  
7 inconsistent federal regulation, reduce workers' compensation  
8 premiums, and enhance economic competitiveness;

9       4. Federal OSHA provides no coverage for state and local  
10 government employees; and

11       5. A unified, Oklahoma-controlled occupational safety and  
12 health program will protect workers, lower costs for employers, and  
13 keep Oklahoma competitive.

14       SECTION 2.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.2 of Title 40, unless there  
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17       There is hereby created within the Department of Labor the  
18 Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OOSHA),  
19 which shall have the powers and duties prescribed by this act.

20       SECTION 3.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.3 of Title 40, unless there  
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23       As used in this act:

24       1. "Commissioner" means the Oklahoma Commissioner of Labor;

2. "Covered employer" means:

a. any state agency, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of the state

- b. any private sector employer who voluntarily elects to participate in the OOSHA program pursuant to Section 6 of this act;

3. "SoonerSafe certification" means a renewable three-year certificate issued by Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OOSHA) confirming substantial compliance with applicable safety standards; and

4. "Public employee" means any employee of a state agency, county, municipality, public trust, school district, or other political subdivision.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.4 of Title 40, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

OOSHA shall:

1. Enforce occupational safety and health standards for all public employees in a manner at least as effective as federal standards;

2. Promulgate rules, after public hearing and stakeholder input, establishing safety and health standards for covered employers;

1       3. Conduct inspections, investigations, and issue citations and  
2 penalties for public employers;

3       4. Provide free on-site consultation, training, and technical  
4 assistant to any Oklahoma employer;

5       5. Establish and administer the voluntary "SoonerSafe  
6 Certification" program;

7       6. Collect, analyze, and publish occupational injury and  
8 illness data for the state; and

9       7. Coordinate with the Workers' Compensation Commission to  
10 offer premium credits for certified employers.

11       SECTION 5.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.5 of Title 40, unless there  
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14       A. Any private sector employer may apply for SoonerSafe  
15 Certification.

16       B. Certification shall be granted upon:

17       1. Completion of an Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health  
18 Administration (OOSHA) consultation with no serious violations  
19 outstanding, or

20       2. Demonstration of an effective safety and health program  
21 meeting criteria set by rule.

22       C. Certified employers shall receive:

1. A five percent (5%) to ten percent (10%) workers' compensation premium credit for three (3) years to be administered through the Insurance Department and CompSource Mutual;
2. Priority consideration in bidding on state contracts; and
3. Use of the official "Sooner Safe" seal in advertising and recruitment.

SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 440.6 of Title 40, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Effective July 1, 2026, all powers, duties, and personnel of the Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) unit shall be transferred to Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health Administration from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to perform the duties imposed upon the Oklahoma Occupational Safety and Health Administration by law.

SECTION 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

1 SECTION 9. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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