

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

HOUSE BILL 4135

By: Fetgatter

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to cross-deputization agreements;
providing standardized cross-deputization agreement;
stating mandatory provisions of the cross-
deputization agreement; providing for codification;
and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 99b of Title 21, unless there is
created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Upon the effective date of this act, all cross-deputization
agreements entered between the state or local governmental agency
and a federally recognized Indian tribe shall contain the following
provisions and be in the following form and format:

PURPOSE. The purposes of this Agreement are to:

1 1. Provide for the cross-deputization of officers employed by
2 the various governmental agencies that are or shall become parties
3 hereto.

4 2. Authorize commissioned officers to provide law enforcement
5 services and make lawful arrests on or near Indian country within
6 the geographic area of the _____ reservation.

7 3. Authorize commissioned officers to react immediately to
8 observed violations of the law and other emergency situations,
9 regardless of whether such occurrences violate the criminal statutes
10 of the _____ (Indian tribe), the United
11 States, and/or the State of Oklahoma.

12 4. Provide for efficient, effective, and cooperative law
13 enforcement efforts on or near Indian country in the geographic area
14 of the _____ (Indian tribe) within the State
15 of Oklahoma.

16 5. Eliminate uncertainties that have caused reluctance among
17 various law enforcement agencies to provide services on or near
18 Indian country for fear of being subjected to tort or civil rights
19 suits as a consequence of good-faith errors by officers making
20 arrests or quelling disturbances in Indian country.

21 6. Provide comprehensive law enforcement protection to citizens
22 of the State of Oklahoma and the _____
23 (Indian tribe), whether they are on or off Indian country within the
24 geographic area of the _____ (Indian tribe),

1 including, but not limited to, responding to observed violations of
2 the law, effecting arrests, responding to calls for assistance,
3 performing investigations, and providing other assistance such as
4 dispatching and detention.

5 AUTHORITY. This Agreement is entered into pursuant to the
6 authority granted by the laws of the United States, the State of
7 Oklahoma, and the _____ (Indian tribe).

8 DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this Agreement:

9 1. "Commissioned officer" means any law enforcement officer who
10 has been duly appointed and authorized by a participating
11 governmental entity.

12 2. "Indian Country" refers to all land within the limits of any
13 Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States
14 Government.

15 TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Each party shall:

16 1. Maintain liability insurance or self-insurance coverage for
17 its officers.

18 2. Provide training to its officers regarding the scope of
19 authority granted under this Agreement.

20 3. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by
21 mutual consent or by written notice from any party.

22 EFFECTIVE DATE. This Agreement shall become effective upon
23 execution by all parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the dates indicated below:

(Date)

(Signature)

(Date)

(Signature)

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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