

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments ★ April 28, 2016



## Pres Pro Tempore

The Oklahoma Senate has elected [Senator Mike Schulz](#) (R-Altus) as successor to President Pro Tempore Brian Bingman (R-Sapulpa). Schulz, 52, has a Bachelor's degree in agriculture from OSU. He was first elected to the legislature in 2006. He has been a friend to ACOG's sister organization, the [South Western Oklahoma Development Authority](#) (SWODA) in Burns Flat.

## Home Stretch

All bills needed to be placed on the calendar by last Thursday, April 19, in order to be heard this session. The second session of the 55<sup>th</sup> Oklahoma Legislature is scheduled to adjourn 5 p.m., Friday, May 27.

## HB3126 | 9-1-1 Bill

[HB3126](#) is headed to the General Conference Committee on Appropriations and Budget. This is a joint committee of the House and Senate. The committee's task is to create a single version of HB3126, which both legislative houses previously passed in somewhat different forms. ACOG staff has met with legislators and advocated for this bill.

Committee members include:  
**Senator Clark Jolley - Chair**  
Senator Greg Treat  
Senator Mark Allen  
Senator Patrick Anderson  
Senator Don Barrington  
Senator Randy Bass  
Senator Stephanie Bice  
Senator Larry Boggs  
Senator Josh Brecheen  
Senator Corey Brooks

Senator Bill Brown  
Senator Brian Crain  
Senator Nathan Dahm  
Senator Kim David  
Senator J.J. Dossett  
Senator Eddie Fields  
Senator Kay Floyd  
Senator John Ford  
Senator Jack Fry  
Senator Earl Garrison  
Senator AJ Griffin  
Senator Jim Halligan  
Senator David Holt  
Senator Darcy Jech  
Senator Ron Justice  
Senator Kyle Loveless  
Senator Bryce Marlatt  
Senator Kevin Matthews  
Senator Mike Mazzei  
Senator Dan Newberry  
Senator Susan Paddock  
Senator Anastasia Pittman  
Senator Marty Quinn  
Senator Ron Sharp  
Senator Wayne Shaw  
Senator Ralph Shortey  
Senator Joseph Silk  
Senator Frank Simpson  
Senator Jason Smalley  
Senator John Sparks  
Senator Rob Standridge  
Senator Gary Stanislawski  
Senator Anthony Sykes  
Senator Roger Thompson  
Senator Charles Wyrick  
Senator Ervin Yen  
**Representative Earl Sears - Chair**  
Representative Dennis Casey  
Representative Bennett, John  
Representative Lisa Billy  
Representative Mike Brown  
Representative Ann Coody  
Representative Doug Cox  
Representative Chuck Hoskin  
Representative Scott Inman  
Representative Dennis Johnson  
Representative Scott Martin  
Representative Charles McCall  
Representative Mark McCullough  
Representative Jeannie McDaniel  
Representative Randy McDaniel  
Representative Jerry McPeak  
Representative Richard Morrisette  
Representative Jason Nelson  
Representative Charles Ortega  
Representative Leslie Osborn  
Representative Pat Ownbey  
Representative Pam Peterson  
Representative Wade Rousselot  
Representative Todd Russ  
Representative Mike Sanders  
Representative Ben Sherrer  
Representative Paul Wesselhoft  
Representative Harold Wright

## Open Carry

[HB3098](#), a bill that will allow Oklahomans to carry a firearm without a government-issue permit or training, passed the Senate. It previously passed the House and is headed to the governor for final consideration. The bill made [national news](#).

## Heartland Flyer

Oklahoma subsidizes Amtrak service through a \$2.85 million annual appropriation. Due to the \$1.3 billion budget shortfall, lawmakers have indicated they may reduce Amtrak funding. The Heartland Flyer has a \$22 million statewide economic impact. ACOG staff met with legislators about the possible cuts and advocated for continued funding. The issue was publicized on the website, [Passenger Rail Oklahoma](#).

## Drones

[HB2599](#) addresses concerns about the use of drones. It will restrict the flight of unmanned aircraft over critical infrastructure. The Senate amended the bill and it's headed back to the House for consideration.

## Tax Refund Donation

Fallin signed [SB1085](#), a bill that allows taxpayers to donate their state income tax refund to the State.

## Internet Tax Bill

[HB2531](#) passed the Oklahoma Senate. If signed by the governor, the bill will increase revenue the State receives from sales tax on Internet purchases, and will create the Oklahoma Retail Protection Act of 2016.

## SB1493 | Fire

**AUTHORS: Smalley, Park**  
[SB1493](#) authorizes a municipality to enter into agreements for used equipment that has been tested and certified as safe with a volunteer fire department.

## SB1102

**AUTHORS: Dahm, Cleveland**  
The governor has signed [SB1102](#), which removes a requirement of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to provide financial

assistance to municipalities with populations of 5,000 or less that employ a part-time city manager or part-time city planner.

## SJR68

**AUTHORS: Jolley, Mulready**  
[This bill](#) will allow grocery and convenience stores to sell wine and beer.

## HB3146 | DUIs

**AUTHORS: Sanders, Treat**  
Both the House and Senate have passed [HB3146](#), which may reduce the number of drunken drivers on Oklahoma roads. If signed by the governor, the law will require municipal law enforcement officers who make an arrest to enter an impaired driver arrest report into the impaired driver database.

## 417 File To Run

Last week, 417 individuals in Oklahoma filed to run for public office. All five Oklahoma congressmen have drawn challengers from their own party.

## Lawmaker Pay

*The Oklahoman* recently published an opinion editorial about legislators' pay and per diem. The commentary was sparked by a report on the website [fivethirtyeight.com](#), which publicized the \$153 per day per diem (\$10,404 annually) Oklahoma state legislators receive above and beyond their regular salaries. Oklahoma legislators' annual base salary is \$38,400 which is approximately equal to the state's median household income.

## School Meals

According to the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#), in 2015-16, Oklahoma is among the worst states in the nation for uptake of a program that ensures low-income

students have access to school meals. By not adopting the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), schools miss out on an opportunity to reduce administrative costs while ensuring more kids have access to food. Only 15 percent of eligible school districts in Oklahoma currently participate in CEP.

## OTC Resignation

Steve Burrage, Chairman of the Oklahoma Tax Commission resigned April 22, due to personal reasons.

## State of the Air

According to the [American Lung Association's 2016 State of the Air report](#), Oklahoma City is ranked the 24<sup>th</sup> most polluted city in the nation for ozone. Ozone season runs from May to September. [Sign up for alerts](#).

## Senate Honors Hansen

Jon Hansen died on April 16. The former Oklahoma City Assistant Fire Chief was best known for the vital role he played in keeping the world informed of recovery and rescue efforts following the bombing of the Murrah Building in 1995. The Oklahoma Senate honored Hansen's memory last week with [Senate Resolution 59](#).

## Convention of States

Oklahoma recently became the [29<sup>th</sup> state](#) to call for a federal constitutional convention following the passage of a House resolution. Thirty-four of 50 states are required for a convention. No such convention has ever been called.

