## 1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Extraordinary Session of the 56th Legislature (2017) HOUSE BILL 1098 3 By: Jordan 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Section 12-106, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2012 (26 O.S. Supp. 2017, Section 12-106), 8 which relates to special elections; adding payment 9 requirement for expenses of certain special elections; providing certain sources of funds; 10 allowing for recovery of expenses; and providing exceptions. 11 12 13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 14 SECTION 1. 26 O.S. 2011, Section 12-106, as AMENDATORY 15 amended by Section 3, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2012 (26 O.S. Supp. 2017, 16 Section 12-106), is amended to read as follows: 17 Section 12-106. A. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the 18 office of a member of the State Senate or the State House of 19 Representatives, the vacancy shall be filled at a Special Election 20 to be called by the Governor within thirty (30) days after the 21 vacancy occurs; provided, no special election shall be called if the 22 vacancy occurs in an even-numbered year if the term of the office 23 expires the same year. 24

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B. If in an even-numbered year an incumbent State Senator with two (2) or more years remaining in the term for which elected shall file with the Oklahoma Secretary of State before March 1 a resignation in writing which states that the resignation will not become effective immediately, but rather will become effective on some date certain that is after the General Election but before the convening of the next session of the Legislature, the vacancy shall be filled by a special election which shall be held in that even-numbered year on the same dates as the regular Primary Election, Runoff Primary Election and General Election. The filing period for the special election shall be the regular filing period prescribed in Section 5-110 of this title. The person elected in the General Election of the special election shall take office on the date the resignation of the incumbent becomes effective and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

C. Whenever the Governor calls a Special Election pursuant to subsection A of this section, the expenses incurred by the state for conducting the Special Election shall be paid by the member of the State Senate or the State House of Representatives who has either resigned, been expelled pursuant to Section 30 of Article 5 of the Oklahoma Constitution or removed from office by operation of law resulting in a vacancy. The payment or repayment of expenses due pursuant to this subsection may be paid by the member's personal funds or any available campaign funds or by a combination of both.

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Any nonpayment of expenses may be recovered by the State Election
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    Board by any civil remedy available by law. Provided, this
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    subsection shall not apply to a Special Election called as a result
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    of a vacancy caused by the death of a member or a resignation due to
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    the health or disability of a member or an immediate family member.
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