## An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL NO. 1120

By: Cockroft of the House

and

Sykes of the Senate

An Act relating to counties and county officers; amending 19 O.S. 2011, Sections 514.4 and 514.5, which relate to notification of outstanding warrants; specifying sheriffs are authorized to contract with certain associations to administer contracts with certain third parties; modifying distribution of administrative fee; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Notification of outstanding warrants

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 514.4, is amended to read as follows:

Section 514.4 A. Notwithstanding any other section of law, the county sheriffs of any Oklahoma county may enter into a private contract, pursuant to Section 85.41 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Such contract shall require the contractor to attempt contract with a statewide association of county sheriffs to administer contracts with third parties attempting to locate and notify persons of their outstanding misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrants. County sheriffs contracting with a statewide association of county sheriffs for the administration of third-party contracts may assign their rights and duties regarding these contracts to the association.

B. A person may make payment directly to the court, as allowed by law, or the contractor shall be authorized to accept payment on misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrants by various means including,

but not limited to, payment by phone, mail, or Internet, and in any payment form including, but not limited to, personal, cashier's, traveler's, certified, or guaranteed bank check, postal or commercial money order, nationally recognized credit or a debit card, or other generally accepted payment form. Any payment collected and received by the contractor shall be paid within fifteen (15) days to the court clerk of the entity that issued the outstanding misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant.

- C. As provided for by this section, a person may pay in lieu of appearance before the court and such payment accepted by the court shall constitute a finding of guilty as though a plea of nolo contendere had been entered by the defendant as allowed by law and shall function as a written, dated, and signed plea form acceptable to the court. Such payment shall serve as a written waiver of a jury trial.
- D. The court shall release the outstanding misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant upon receipt of all sums due pursuant to said warrant including the misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant, scheduled fine or sum due, all associated fees, costs and statutory penalty assessments, and the administrative cost pursuant to Section 514.5 of this title.
- E. The provisions of any contract entered into by a county sheriff shall be administered by a statewide association of county sheriffs in Oklahoma. The county sheriff of any Oklahoma county may assign their right to contract to the statewide association administering the provisions of this contract.
- F. The provisions of this section and Section 514.5 of this title shall be applicable to:
- 1. Any misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant issued or relating to any proceeding pursuant to the State and Municipal Traffic Bail Bond Procedure Act;
- 2. Any misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant issued that allows a defendant to resolve the matter by payment in lieu of a personal appearance in court; and
  - 3. Any failure-to-pay warrant issued in a criminal case.
- SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 514.5, is amended to read as follows:

Section 514.5 A. Misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrants referred to the third-party contractor pursuant to Section 514.4 of this title shall include the addition of an administrative cost of thirty percent (30%) of the outstanding misdemeanor or failure-to-pay warrant, scheduled fine or sum due, and all associated fees, costs and statutory penalty assessments. This administrative cost shall not be waived or reduced except by order of the court.

- B. The administrative cost reflected in subsection A of this section, when collected, shall be distributed to the association administering the provisions of the contract third-party contractor, a portion of which may be used to compensate the contractor association administrating the contract.
- C. The monies collected and disbursed shall be audited at least once a year by a firm approved by the State Auditor and Inspector.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of March, 2018.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 24th day of April, 2018.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

|     | OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR                                 |  |
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|     | Received by the Office of the Governor this            |  |
| day | of, 20, at o'clock M.                                  |  |
| ву: | <del></del>  |  |
|     | Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this |  |
| day | of, 20, at o'clock M.                                  |  |
|     | Governor of the State of Oklahoma                      |  |
|     | OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE                       |  |
|     | Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this  |  |
| day | of, 20, at o'clock M.                                  |  |
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