

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2241

By: Dobrinski and Patzkowsky of  
the House

3 and

4 Murdock of the Senate  
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8 [ roads, bridges and ferries - municipally owned  
9 utilities - costs and expenses for removal and  
10 relocation - effective date ]  
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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1403, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 1403. A. The location and removal of all telephone,  
17 telegraph, electric light and power transmission lines, poles, wires  
18 and conduits, water, sewers and all pipelines erected, constructed  
19 or in place upon, across or under any state highway shall be under  
20 the control and supervision of the Department of Transportation; and  
21 the location and removal of any facility placed under rights granted  
22 hereunder on county highways shall be under the jurisdiction of the  
23 particular board of county commissioners involved insofar as same  
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1 affects the public travel or interferes with the construction and  
2 maintenance of such highway.

3 B. Prior to conducting the design survey for a proposed  
4 improvement, construction, or reconstruction of a highway, the  
5 authority having jurisdiction over the highway shall notify any  
6 person, firm, or corporation overseeing the operating or maintaining  
7 of any facility within the proposed project boundaries. Upon  
8 receipt of notice or from a date specified in the notice, the  
9 person, firm, or corporation shall have ten (10) days to locate and  
10 mark the facilities.

11 C. Whenever the authority having jurisdiction over a particular  
12 highway plans an improvement or construction or reconstruction of  
13 the highway, and before the work is started, it shall serve a  
14 written notice upon the person, firm or corporation owning or  
15 maintaining any such facility, which notice shall contain a plan or  
16 chart indicating the places on the right-of-way where the facilities  
17 may be maintained. The notice shall state the time when the work of  
18 improving the highway is proposed to commence, and a reasonable time  
19 shall be allowed to the owner of the facility to remove and relocate  
20 its property. The effect of any change ordered by the public  
21 authority shall not be to exclude the facilities from the right-of-  
22 way of highways.

23 D. The removal and relocation of all the facilities located  
24 within the public right-of-way prior to the planned improvement,

1 construction or reconstruction shall be made at the cost and expense  
2 of the owners, unless otherwise provided by law or order of the  
3 Department of Transportation, and in the event of the failure of  
4 such owners to remove the same at the time set out in the notice,  
5 they may be removed by the public authority and the cost of the  
6 removal collected from the owners, and the authority shall not be  
7 liable in any way to any person for the locating or relocating of  
8 the facilities at the places prescribed. Any corporation or  
9 association, or the officers or agents of such corporation or  
10 association, or any other person who shall erect or maintain any  
11 such lines, poles, wires, conduits, pipelines, equipment or other  
12 facilities within the right-of-way of such highways in a manner not  
13 in complete accordance with the orders of the respective public  
14 authority shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

15 E. The Department of Transportation may promulgate such rules  
16 as it may deem necessary for the planting of trees and shrubbery and  
17 parking along such state highways.

18 F. Rural water districts, nonprofit water corporations, and  
19 ~~municipal public water systems in~~ all municipally owned utilities  
20 servicing municipalities with a population of ten thousand (10,000) or  
21 less, according to the latest Federal Decennial Census, or their  
22 beneficial trusts shall be exempt from the payment of the costs and  
23 expenses for the removal and relocation of ~~water and sewer pipelines~~  
24 ~~and all such facilities~~ municipally owned utilities constructed or

1 in place in the public right-of-way when the removal and relocation  
2 of such facilities is necessary for the improvement, construction or  
3 reconstruction of any road or highway which is part of the state  
4 highway system or turnpike project as defined in subsection A of  
5 Section 501 and Section 1705 of this title. Any costs and expenses,  
6 including any unpaid on July 1, 1990, shall be paid by the public  
7 authority having jurisdiction over the particular road or highway.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

9 Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate