1 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION 2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 3 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016) HOUSE BILL 2563 4 By: Nollan 5 6 7 AS INTRODUCED 8 An Act relating to counties and county officers; authorizing counties to clean certain property; 9 requiring notice to property owner; authorizing certain consent to be given; providing for a certain 10 hearing; granting county right of entry to perform certain functions; requiring statement of costs to be 11 mailed; subjecting property to levy and lien; authorizing civil remedy; specifying applicability of 12 certain property interest; authorizing the adoption of certain resolutions; defining terms; providing for 1.3 codification; and providing an effective date. 14 15 16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 17 SECTION 1. A new section of law to be codified NEW LAW 18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 339.9 of Title 19, unless there 19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: 20 The board of county commissioners of any county may cause Α. 21 property in a residential neighborhood within an unincorporated area 22 of the county to be cleaned of trash in accordance with the 23 following procedure:

1. At least ten (10) days' notice shall be given to the owner
of the property by mail at the address shown by the current year's
tax rolls in the county treasurer's office before the governing body
holds a hearing or takes action. The notice shall order the
property owner to clean the property of trash and the notice shall
further state that unless such work is performed within ten (10)
days of the date of the notice the work shall be done by the county
and a notice of lien shall be filed with the county clerk against
the property for the costs due and owing the county. At the time of
mailing of notice to the property owner, the county shall obtain a
receipt of mailing from the postal service, which receipt shall
indicate the date of mailing and the name and address of the mailee.
However, if the property owner cannot be located within ten (10)
days from the date of mailing by the governing body of the county,
notice may be given by posting a copy of the notice on the property
or by publication in a newspaper or newspapers having a general
circulation in the county one time not less than ten (10) days prior
to any hearing or action by the county;

- 2. The owner of the property may give written consent to the county authorizing the removal of the trash. By giving written consent, the owner waives the owner's right to a hearing by the county;
- 3. A hearing may be held by the board of county commissioners to determine whether the accumulation of trash has caused the

- property to become detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the public and the community or a hazard to traffic, or creates a fire hazard to the danger of property;
- 4. Upon a finding that the condition of the property constitutes a detriment or hazard, and that the property would be benefited by the removal of such conditions, the agents of the county are granted the right of entry on the property for the removal of trash and performance of the necessary duties as a governmental function of the county. Immediately following the cleaning of the property, the county shall file a notice of lien with the county clerk describing the property and the work performed by the county, and stating that the county claims a lien on the property for the cleaning costs;
- 5. The governing body shall determine the actual cost of such cleaning and any other expenses as may be necessary in connection therewith, including the cost of notice and mailing. The county clerk shall forward by mail to the property owner specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection a statement of such actual cost and demanding payment. If the cleaning is done by the county, the cost to the property owner for the cleaning shall not exceed the actual cost of the labor, maintenance and equipment required. If the cleaning is done on a private contract basis, the contract shall be awarded to the lowest and best bidder; and

6. If payment is not made within thirty (30) days from the date of the mailing of the statement, then within the next thirty (30) days the county clerk shall forward a certified statement of the amount of the cost to the county treasurer of the county and the same shall be levied on the property and collected by the county treasurer as other taxes authorized by law. In addition the cost and the interest thereon shall be a lien against the property from the date the cost is certified to the county treasurer, coequal with the lien of ad valorem taxes and all other taxes and special assessments and prior and superior to all other titles and liens against the property, and the lien shall continue until the cost shall be fully paid. At the time of collection the county treasurer shall collect a fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each parcel of property. The fee shall be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the county. If the county treasurer is unable to collect the assessment, the county may pursue a civil remedy for collection of the amount owing and interest thereon by an action in personam against the property owner and an action in rem to foreclose its lien against the property. A mineral interest, if severed from the surface interest and not owned by the surface owner, shall not be subject to any tax or judgment lien created pursuant to this section. Upon receiving payment, if any, the county clerk shall forward to the county treasurer a notice of such payment and directing discharge of the lien.

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1	B. The governing body of the county may adopt resolutions to
2	prohibit owners of property or persons otherwise in possession or
3	control located within the county from allowing trash to accumulate
4	and may impose penalties for violation of said resolution.
5	C. As used in this section:
6	1. "Cleaning" means the removal of trash from property;
7	2. "Owner" means the owner of record as shown by the most
8	current tax rolls of the county treasurer;
9	3. "Residential neighborhood" means plats or subdivision plats
10	of property in a defined and contiguous geographic area which
11	consists of buildings and structures for housing individuals and
12	families in counties having a population of more than five hundred
13	thousand (500,000), according to the latest federal Decennial
14	Census; and
15	4. "Trash" means any refuse, litter, ashes, leaves, debris,
16	paper, combustible materials, rubbish, offal or waste, or matter of
17	any kind or form which is uncared for, discarded or abandoned.
18	SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.
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COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT,

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dated 02/18/2016 - DO PASS.