

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

3 HOUSE BILL 3151

By: Humphrey

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to turnpikes; amending 69 O.S. 2021,  
8 Section 1705, which relates to authority, powers and  
9 duties of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority; clarifying  
10 legislative intent and certain powers of the Oklahoma  
11 Turnpike Authority; and providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1705, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1705. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby  
16 authorized and empowered:

17 (a) To adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and  
18 conduct of its business.

19 (b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure.

20 (c) To maintain an office at such place or places within the  
21 state as it may designate.

22 (d) To sue and be sued in contract, reverse condemnation,  
23 equity, mandamus and similar actions in its own name, plead and be  
24 impleaded; provided, that any and all actions at law or in equity  
--

1 against the Authority shall be brought in the county in which the  
2 principal office of the Authority shall be located, or in the county  
3 of the residence of the plaintiff, or the county where the cause of  
4 action arose. All privileges granted to the Authority and duties  
5 enjoined upon the Authority by the provisions of Sections 1701  
6 through 1734 of this title may be enforced in a court of competent  
7 jurisdiction in an action in mandamus.

8 (e) To construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike  
9 projects ~~and highways~~, with their access and connecting roads, at  
10 such locations and on such routes as ~~it shall determine~~ are  
11 determined to be feasible and economically sound; provided, that  
12 until specifically authorized by the Legislature, the Authority  
13 shall be authorized to construct and operate toll turnpikes only at  
14 the following locations and routes:

15 (1) The Turner Turnpike between Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

16 (2) The Southwestern (H.E. Bailey) Turnpike between Oklahoma  
17 City and Wichita Falls, Texas.

18 (3) The Northeastern (Will Rogers) Turnpike between Tulsa and  
19 Joplin, Missouri.

20 (4) The Eastern (Indian Nation) Turnpike between Tulsa and  
21 Paris, Texas, including all or any part thereof between McAlester  
22 and the Red River south of Hugo.

23 (5) The Cimarron Turnpike between Tulsa and Interstate Highway  
24 35 north of Perry, including a connection to Stillwater.

1 (6) The Muskogee Turnpike between Broken Arrow and Interstate  
2 Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls.

3 (7) All or any part of an extension of the Muskogee Turnpike,  
4 beginning at a point on Interstate Highway 40 near the present south  
5 terminus of the Muskogee Turnpike, and extending in a southeasterly  
6 direction on an alignment near Stigler, Poteau and Heavener to the  
7 vicinity of the Arkansas State Line to furnish access to Hot  
8 Springs, Texarkana, Shreveport and New Orleans.

9 (8) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of  
10 Luther, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of the intersection of State  
11 Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike in Creek County, Oklahoma, or in the  
12 vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 33 and Turner Turnpike  
13 or U.S. Highway 66 in Creek County, Oklahoma, from any monies  
14 available to the Authority.

15 (9) Add on the Will Rogers Turnpike a northbound automatic  
16 tollgate onto State Highway 28 and a southbound on-ramp from State  
17 Highway 28.

18 (10) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
19 vicinity of Duncan extending east to the vicinity of the City of  
20 Davis, and extending in a northeasterly direction, by way of the  
21 vicinity of the City of Ada, to a connection in the vicinity of  
22 Henryetta or in the vicinity of the intersection of State Highway 48  
23 and Interstate 40; and a turnpike or any part or parts thereof from  
24 the vicinity of Snyder extending north to the vicinity of Woodward.

1 (11) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a  
2 point in the vicinity of Ponca City, or at a point on the Kansas-  
3 Oklahoma state boundary line east of the Arkansas River and west of  
4 the point where Oklahoma State Highway No. 18 intersects said state  
5 boundary line, and extending in a southeasterly direction to a  
6 connection with the Tulsa Urban Expressway System in the general  
7 area of the Port of Catoosa.

8 (12) All or any part of an Oklahoma City toll expressway system  
9 connecting the residential, industrial and State Capitol Complex in  
10 the north part of Oklahoma City with the residential, industrial and  
11 Will Rogers World Airport Complex in the south and southwest parts  
12 of Oklahoma City.

13 (13) A turnpike (The Industrial Parkway) or any part or parts  
14 thereof beginning at a point on the Oklahoma-Kansas state boundary  
15 line between the point where U.S. Highway 66 intersects the boundary  
16 line and the northeast corner of Oklahoma and ending by means of a  
17 connection or connections with Shreveport, Louisiana, and Houston,  
18 Texas, in southeastern Oklahoma and at no point to exceed thirty  
19 (30) miles west of the Missouri or Arkansas border.

20 (14) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
21 vicinity of Velma or County Line to a point intersecting with  
22 Interstate 35 in the area south of Davis.  
23  
24  
--

1 (15) A turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning in the  
2 vicinity of Watonga and extending south and/or east to the vicinity  
3 of north and/or west Oklahoma City.

4 (16) A tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike near the  
5 intersection of State Highway 137 and the Will Rogers Turnpike,  
6 located south of Quapaw.

7 (17) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of  
8 Porter, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Will Rogers Turnpike in the  
9 vicinity of Adair, Oklahoma, a tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in  
10 the vicinity of Luther, Oklahoma, and a tollgate on the H.E. Bailey  
11 Turnpike at Elgin, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the  
12 Authority.

13 (18) A tollgate on the Turner Turnpike in the vicinity of  
14 Wellston, Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

15 (19) A tollgate on the Muskogee Turnpike in the vicinity of  
16 Brushy Mountain, Oklahoma, and in the vicinity of Elm Grove,  
17 Oklahoma, from any monies available to the Authority.

18 (20) All or any part of an Oklahoma City Outer Loop expressway  
19 system beginning in the vicinity of I-35 and the Turner Turnpike and  
20 extending west into Canadian County and then south to I-40; and then  
21 south and east to I-35 in the vicinity of Moore and Norman; and then  
22 extending east and north to I-40 east of Tinker Field; and then  
23 extending north to the Turner Turnpike to complete the Outer Loop.  
24  
--

1 (21) All or any part of the Tulsa south bypass expressway  
2 system beginning in the vicinity of the Turner Turnpike near Sapulpa  
3 and extending south and east to U.S. 75 in the vicinity of 96th  
4 Street to 121st Street; and then east across the Arkansas River to a  
5 connection with the Mingo Valley Expressway; and then south and/or  
6 east to a point on the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line near 131st street  
7 south in the city of Broken Arrow.

8 (22) A new turnpike or any part thereof from near the west gate  
9 of the Will Rogers Turnpike south to the west end of south Tulsa  
10 Turnpike at the Tulsa-Wagoner County Line.

11 (23) A new turnpike or any parts thereof from the vicinity of  
12 the connection between State Highway 33 and U.S. 69 easterly to the  
13 Arkansas State Line.

14 (24) A four-lane extension of the Muskogee Turnpike from  
15 Interstate Highway 40 west of Webbers Falls to the Poteau vicinity.

16 (25) A new turnpike or any part or parts thereof beginning at a  
17 point in the vicinity of northwest Tulsa, and extending in a  
18 northwesterly direction, by means of a connection or connections  
19 with the cities of Pawhuska and Newkirk, to a point intersecting in  
20 the vicinity of US Highway No. 77 and the Kansas State Line.

21 (26) A full access interchange on the Indian Nation Turnpike  
22 south of Interstate 40, in the vicinity of Henryetta, Oklahoma, and  
23 in the vicinity of the proposed theme park, museum or an industrial  
24  
--

1 facility which qualifies for the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act,  
2 from any monies available to the Authority.

3 (27) A new turnpike beginning at a point directly west of the  
4 Arkansas line and four-laning Highway 70 from that point to the  
5 farthest western reach of Highway 70 creating a southern route  
6 through Oklahoma.

7 (28) A new turnpike and bridge or any parts thereof from a  
8 point in the vicinity of the city of Mustang southerly across the  
9 South Canadian River to the H.E. Bailey Turnpike in the vicinity of  
10 the city of Tuttle; and then easterly across the South Canadian  
11 River to a point in the vicinity of the city of Norman.

12 (29) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point  
13 in the vicinity of the city of Altus and extending in a  
14 northwesterly direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of  
15 Sayre.

16 (30) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at a point  
17 in the vicinity of the city of Enid and extending in a westerly  
18 direction to a point in the vicinity of the city of Woodward.

19 (31) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof at Fletcher,  
20 Oklahoma, in the vicinity of the Interstate 44 and State Highway 277  
21 intersection. Any existing on- or off-ramp or any parts thereof in  
22 the vicinity of Fletcher, Oklahoma, shall not be removed and shall  
23 be maintained pursuant to Section 1701 et seq. of this title.  
24  
--

1 (32) A new bridge crossing the Arkansas River between South  
2 Delaware Avenue and Memorial Drive in Tulsa County. This project  
3 shall commence upon a determination by the Oklahoma Transportation  
4 Authority that such bridge shall be self-sufficient at some point  
5 over a thirty-year time period from the toll charges associated with  
6 the bridge project.

7 (33) An exit ramp or any parts thereof from the eastbound lane  
8 of the Turner Turnpike at 96th Street in Tulsa.

9 (34) An on- and off-ramp or any parts thereof on the Cimarron  
10 Turnpike in the vicinity of the northside of the Glencoe, Oklahoma,  
11 municipal limits.

12 (35) A new turnpike or any parts thereof beginning at  
13 Interstate 44 at or near its intersection with 49th West Avenue,  
14 past State Highway 64/412, turning northeasterly, crossing 41st West  
15 Avenue, and continuing eastward to the L.L. Tisdale Expressway in  
16 Tulsa, Oklahoma.

17 It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Legislature that  
18 the Oklahoma Legislature, through duly enacted legislation, and not  
19 the Authority, shall have the sole discretion to authorize and  
20 determine the location and overall route of a toll turnpike in the  
21 State of Oklahoma. The language set forth in any toll turnpike  
22 location or route authorization in this subsection, or elsewhere in  
23 this act, is to be construed according to its plain meaning as  
24 mandatory, and not discretionary, for the Authority. All  
..



1 directional and other limitations and descriptions contained in any  
2 toll turnpike location or route authorization are hereby declared to  
3 be mandatory limits on the Authority's turnpike project powers and  
4 not discretionary guidelines for the Authority. The Authority shall  
5 abide by the plain and ordinary language of such limits, and the  
6 Authority shall not have the discretion or power to build turnpikes  
7 in places, directions, or locations other than those expressly and  
8 specifically authorized herein. Any rule of construction contained  
9 in this act or elsewhere shall not be employed in variance or  
10 conflict with the intent of the Legislature as expressed herein.

11 All access roads, interchanges, or lead roads connecting such  
12 turnpikes with existing highways must be built by funds furnished by  
13 the Authority.

14 The minimum and maximum wages for the construction of the roads,  
15 highways and projects provided for in Sections 1701 through 1734 of  
16 this title shall be in accordance with the schedules of wages used  
17 or adopted by the Commission in construction of state highways.

18 The Authority is hereby authorized to enter into contracts or  
19 agreements with agencies and instrumentalities of other states or  
20 the national government for construction, maintenance and operation  
21 of interstate turnpikes or highways.

22 The Authority is hereby required to construct and install  
23 automatic tollgates on the Will Rogers Turnpike at State Highway No.  
24 28 near Adair.

1 (f) To issue turnpike revenue bonds of the Authority, payable  
2 solely from revenues, including the revenues accruing to the trust  
3 fund created by Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title, for the  
4 purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any one or more  
5 turnpike projects. Provided that any bonds issued for the  
6 construction of the proposed turnpike referred to in subparagraphs  
7 (10), (20), (21) and (22) of paragraph (e) of this section shall be  
8 issued as one issue for all four of the proposed turnpikes and shall  
9 be financed, constructed and operated under one bond indenture.

10 (g) To fix and revise from time to time tolls for the use of  
11 any turnpike projects.

12 Any common carrier having authority at the time of opening any  
13 turnpike project to operate upon a highway approximately paralleling  
14 the turnpike project shall be granted without further showing  
15 authority to operate over the turnpike project to all municipalities  
16 which such carrier is serving at the time the turnpike project is  
17 opened to traffic. But nothing herein shall be construed as  
18 granting any new operation rights to any common carriers.

19 (h) To acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property  
20 in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties.

21 (i) To acquire in the name of the Authority by purchase or  
22 otherwise on such terms and conditions and in such manner as it may  
23 deem proper, or by exercise of the right of condemnation in manner  
24 hereinafter provided, such public or private lands, including public  
..

1 parks, playgrounds, or reservations, or parts thereof or rights  
2 therein, rights-of-way, property, rights, easements, and interests,  
3 as it may deem necessary for carrying out the provisions of Sections  
4 1701 through 1734 of this title; provided, that all public property  
5 damaged in carrying out the powers granted by Sections 1701 through  
6 1734 of this title shall be restored or repaired and placed in its  
7 original condition as nearly as practicable.

8 (j) To designate, except as is provided for herein, the  
9 location, and establish, limit and control such points of ingress to  
10 and egress from each turnpike project as may be necessary or  
11 desirable in the judgment of the Authority to ~~insure~~ ensure the  
12 proper operation and maintenance of such project, and to prohibit  
13 entrance to such project from any point or points not so designated.  
14 Provided further, this subsection is not to be construed as an  
15 independent or additional source of authority for the Authority to  
16 construct a toll turnpike at any location or route other than those  
17 expressly and specifically authorized by the Legislature in  
18 paragraph (e) of this section.

19 (k) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements  
20 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the  
21 execution of its powers, and to employ consulting engineers,  
22 attorneys, accountants, construction and financial experts,  
23 superintendents, managers, and such other employees and agents as  
24 may be necessary in its judgment, and to fix their compensation;

1 provided, that all such expenses shall be payable solely from the  
2 proceeds of turnpike revenue bonds issued under the provisions of  
3 Sections 1701 through 1734 of this title or from revenues; provided,  
4 further, no attorney employed by the Authority, nor any member of  
5 any law firm of which the attorney may be connected, shall ever be  
6 paid any fee or compensation for any special or extraordinary  
7 services.

8 (1) To receive and accept from any federal agency grants for or  
9 in aid of the construction of any turnpike project, provided, the  
10 acceptance of such grants will not reduce the amount of federal aid  
11 for the construction, repair, or maintenance of farm-to-market roads  
12 and other highways and bridges in this state; and to receive and  
13 accept aid or contributions from any source of either money,  
14 property, labor, or other things of value, to be held, used, and  
15 applied only for the purposes for which such grants and  
16 contributions may be made.

17 (m) To adopt such rules, and to do any and all things necessary  
18 to comply with rules, regulations, or requirements of the Bureau of  
19 Public Roads, Multistate Economic Development Regional Commission,  
20 as defined in Sections 1151 through 1153, inclusive, of Title 74 of  
21 the Oklahoma Statutes, Ozarka Region Commission or any other federal  
22 agency administering any law enacted by the Congress of the United  
23 States to aid or encourage the construction of highways.

1 (n) To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the  
2 powers expressly granted in Sections 1701 through 1734 of this  
3 title. The design standards for all paving shall comply with the  
4 design standards of the American Association of State Highway and  
5 Transportation Officials as modified by the Oklahoma Department of  
6 Transportation. All contracts for construction work on turnpike  
7 projects shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or bidders,  
8 after notice by publication in a newspaper published in the county  
9 where the work is to be done in two consecutive weekly issues of the  
10 newspaper. In all cases where more than eight (8) miles of  
11 construction is let at the same time and is not an advertisement for  
12 a surface-treatment-only project, such advertisement shall provide  
13 for bids on sections of the turnpike not to exceed eight (8) miles.  
14 If the project advertised is a surface-treatment-only project of  
15 more than twenty (20) miles of road, the advertisement shall provide  
16 for bids on sections of the road no longer than twenty (20) miles,  
17 as well as bids on the project as a whole. Subject to the following  
18 restrictions and limitations, the Authority shall, when contracting  
19 for construction work, divide such work into paving projects, bridge  
20 projects, including underpasses and overpasses, and earthmoving or  
21 miscellaneous projects, according to the type of work to be done.  
22 Each project shall be let under a separate contract or contracts and  
23 no contract or project shall include more than one of such types of  
24 construction work. Each contract for construction work shall

1 contain a provision that ninety percent (90%) of all labor employed  
2 on the project shall be residents of Oklahoma. However, contracts  
3 for bridges may include earthwork and structures for the approaches  
4 thereto.

5 (o) It shall be unlawful for any member, officer or employee of  
6 the Authority to transact with the Authority, either directly or  
7 indirectly, any business for profit of such member, officer, or  
8 employee; and any person, firm, or corporation knowingly  
9 participating therein shall be equally liable for violation of this  
10 provision.

11 The term "business for profit" shall include, but not be limited  
12 to, the acceptance or payment of any fee, commission, gift, or  
13 consideration to such member, officer, or employee.

14 Violation of this provision shall constitute a felony punishable  
15 by incarceration in the State Penitentiary for a term not to exceed  
16 five (5) years or a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars  
17 (\$500.00) and not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or  
18 both such imprisonment and fine.

19 (p) In the event of a national emergency, the Authority,  
20 subject to any vested rights or claims, may enter into contracts  
21 with the federal government or any authorized agency thereof to  
22 allow the federal government or agency thereof to use such turnpikes  
23 partly or exclusively during the existence of such emergency,  
24 provided, that the federal government agrees in such contract to  
..

1 pay, during the term of such contract, an amount sufficient, when  
2 added to any tolls collected, to meet all operating and maintenance  
3 expenses, interest payments, and the minimum sinking fund and  
4 reserve requirements of the trust agreement for the turnpike covered  
5 by the contract.

6 (q) All meetings of the Authority shall be open public  
7 meetings, and all records shall be public records, except when  
8 considering personnel or litigation.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

10  
11 59-2-8897 JL 01/05/24  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
--