1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)
4	ENGROSSED SENATE
5	BILL NO. 115 By: Sharp of the Senate
6	and
7	Moore of the House
8	
9	An Act relating to online verification of motor
10	vehicle insurance; amending 47 O.S. 2011, Section 7- 600.2, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 88, O.S.L.
11	2016 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 7-600.2), which relates to rules for the online verification system;
12	transferring certain responsibilities and duties for the online verification system from the Department of
13	Public Safety to the Insurance Department; adding the district attorneys to list of entities authorized to
14	access verification system; authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to initiate administrative proceedings
15	in event of violation; amending Section 1, Chapter 365, O.S.L. 2016 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 7-
16	606.1), which relates to uninsured vehicles; transferring responsibility for certain acts from the
17	Department of Public Safety to the Insurance Department; amending 47 O.S. 2011, Section 7-602, as
18	amended by Section 1, Chapter 146, O.S.L. 2015 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 7-602), which relates to
19	existence of security on the online verification system; adding certain persons to list of authorized
20	sources of insurance verification; authorizing electronic delivery of proof of security
21	verification; and providing an effective date.
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23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
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1	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 7-600.2, as
2	amended by Section 1, Chapter 88, O.S.L. 2016 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016,
3	Section 7-600.2), is amended to read as follows:
4	Section 7-600.2. A. The Department of Public Safety shall
5	promulgate and adopt, pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act,
6	rules for an transfer to the Oklahoma Insurance Department by
7	January 1, 2018, the online verification system for motor vehicle
8	liability policies as required by the Compulsory Insurance Law,
9	subject to the following:
10	1. The Oklahoma Tax Commission and the Insurance Department <u>of</u>
11	Public Safety shall cooperate with the <u>Insurance</u> Department of
12	Public Safety in the development ongoing improvement and maintenance
13	of the verification system;
14	2. The verification system shall be accessible through the
15	Internet, World Wide Web or a similar proprietary or common carrier
16	electronic system by authorized personnel of the Department <u>of</u>
17	Public Safety, the Tax Commission, the district attorneys, the
18	courts, law enforcement personnel, and any other entities authorized
19	by the <u>Insurance</u> Department;
20	3. The verification system shall provide for direct inquiry and
21	response between the <u>Insurance</u> Department and insurance carriers, or
22	such other method of inquiry and response as agreed to by the
23	Insurance Department and individual insurance carriers, and direct
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1 access to insurers' records by personnel authorized by the <u>Insurance</u>
2 Department;

3 4. The verification system shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day to verify the insurance status of any vehicle registered 4 5 in this state through the vehicle's identification number, policy number, registered owner's name or other identifying characteristic 6 7 or marker as prescribed by the Insurance Department in its rules; The Insurance Department may contract with a private vendor 8 5. 9 to assist in establishing and maintaining the verification system; 10 6. The verification system shall include appropriate provisions, consistent with industry standards, to secure its data 11

13 information requests;

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14 7. Information contained in the verification system shall not15 be considered a public record;

against unauthorized access and to maintain a record of all

Any law enforcement officer, to establish compliance with 16 8. the Compulsory Insurance Law during a traffic stop or accident 17 investigation, shall access information from the online verification 18 system to verify the current validity of the policy described on a 19 security verification form produced by the operator of each motor 20 vehicle during the traffic stop or accident investigation. 21 Ιf compliance is not confirmed for the policy described on the security 22 verification form produced by the operator and a subsequent 23 investigation conducted by the officer verifies that the operator is 24

not in compliance, the officer may issue a citation to the operator
 for failure to comply with the Compulsory Insurance Law;

3 9. If the operator fails to produce the security verification form during a traffic stop or accident investigation, the requesting 4 5 law enforcement officer shall access information from the online verification system through the vehicle's identification number, 6 7 registered owner's name, license plate number or other identifying characteristic or marker to verify valid and current security and 8 9 establish compliance with the Compulsory Insurance Law and shall not 10 issue a citation if valid and current security is established. If 11 the operator fails to produce the security verification form and 12 compliance is not confirmed through the online verification system, the officer may issue a citation to the operator for failure to 13 comply with the Compulsory Insurance Law; 14

15 10. Establishing compliance with the Compulsory Insurance Law 16 through the online verification system shall not be the primary 17 cause for law enforcement to stop a motor vehicle; and

18 11. All information exchanged between the <u>Insurance</u> Department 19 and insurance companies, any database created, and all reports, 20 responses, or other information generated for the purposes of the 21 verification system shall not be subject to the Oklahoma Open 22 Records Act.

B. This section shall not apply to a policy issued pursuant to
paragraph 3 of subsection A of Section 7-601.1 of this title or

1 paragraph 3 of subsection A of Section 7-602 of this title to insure 2 a commercial motor vehicle or to insure any vehicle under a 3 commercial policy that provides commercial auto coverage as defined 4 in Section 7-600 of this title.

5 C. As a condition for writing motor vehicle liability policies 6 in this state, insurance carriers shall cooperate with the Insurance 7 Department in establishing and maintaining the insurance verification system and shall provide access to motor vehicle 8 9 insurance policy status information as provided in the rules of the 10 Insurance Department. The Insurance Commissioner may, pursuant to 11 Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes, initiate an administrative 12 proceeding against any insurance company found by the Commissioner to not be in compliance with the provisions of this section or any 13 rules promulgated pursuant to this section. 14

15 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 365, O.S.L. 16 2016 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 7-606.1), is amended to read as 17 follows:

18 Section 7-606.1. A. There is hereby created the Uninsured19 Vehicle Enforcement Program.

B. The Uninsured Vehicle Enforcement Program shall be
implemented and administered by the district attorneys of the State
of Oklahoma within their respective districts or at the District
Attorneys Council. To implement this program, the use of technology
and software to aid in detection of offenses involving uninsured

1 motorists is necessary and district attorneys and participating law 2 enforcement agencies shall have the authority to enter into 3 contractual agreements with automated license plate reader providers to provide necessary technology, equipment and maintenance thereof. 4 5 C. 1. Participating law enforcement agencies may use automatic license plate reader systems utilizing individual automatic license 6 7 plate reader system units to access and collect data for the investigation, detection, analysis or enforcement of Oklahoma's 8 9 Compulsory Insurance Law.

10 2. To accomplish the purposes of the program, law enforcement 11 agencies shall be allowed to access the online verification system 12 for motor vehicle liability policies to establish compliance with 13 the Compulsory Insurance Law as provided in Section 7-600.2 of Title 14 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

3. Access to the system shall be restricted to authorized law enforcement agency users in the program; provided, any entity with which a contract is executed to provide necessary technology, equipment and maintenance for purposes of the program shall be authorized, as necessary, to collaborate for required updates and maintenance of their software.

4. Any data collected and stored by law enforcement pursuant to
the program shall be considered evidence if noncompliance with the
Compulsory Insurance Law is confirmed.

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1 D. A law enforcement officer may verify by sworn affidavit that 2 a photograph generated by an automatic license plate reader system 3 unit identifies a particular vehicle operating on or having been operated on a public road, highway, street, turnpike, other public 4 5 place or upon any private road, street, alley or lane which provides access to one or more single-family or multifamily dwellings and 6 7 that the online verification system shows that the vehicle was uninsured at the time such vehicle was being operated. 8 The 9 affidavit shall constitute probable cause for prosecution under 10 applicable state law.

E. Data collected or retained through the use of an automated license plate reader system pursuant to the program shall be retained by a law enforcement agency when the data is being used as evidence of a violation of the Compulsory Insurance Law; provided, when the data is no longer needed as evidence of a violation, the data shall be deleted or destroyed.

F. Data collected or retained through the use of an automated
license plate reader system shall not be used by any individual or
agency for purposes other than enforcement of the Compulsory
Insurance Law or as otherwise permitted by law.

No law enforcement agency or other entity authorized to
 operate under this program shall sell captured license plate data
 for any purpose or share it for any purpose not expressly authorized
 by this section.

2. Any and all data collected, retained or shared through the
 use of an automated license plate reader system, except data
 retained as evidence of a violation of the Compulsory Insurance Law,
 shall be exempt from the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

5 G. The provisions of the program shall not apply to, or be 6 construed or interpreted in a manner to prohibit the use of, any 7 other automated license plate reader system by an individual or 8 private legal entity for purposes not otherwise prohibited by law.

9 H. The provisions of the program shall not be implemented until 10 such time that the <u>Insurance</u> Department of Public Safety verifies 11 that the following conditions have been met:

At least Ninety-Five Percent (95%) of the personal lines
 auto insurance market in the state participates in the Oklahoma
 Compulsory Insurance Verification System using a real-time web
 portal system; and

The Oklahoma Compulsory Insurance Verification System is
 updated in such a way to allow for the provisions of the program to
 be implemented without interrupting or impeding any other lawful
 uses of the system.

I. Following the implementation of the program and every year thereafter, the District Attorneys Council shall publish an annual report for the previous fiscal year of the Uninsured Vehicle Enforcement Program by September 1. An electronic copy of the report shall be distributed to the President Pro Tempore of the

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Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. The report shall comprise an evaluation of program operations, and may include any information and recommendations for improvement of the program deemed appropriate by the entity submitting the report.

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J. For purposes of this section:

7 1. "Automatic license plate reader system" means a system of 8 one or more mobile or law-enforcement-controlled cameras combined 9 with computer algorithms to convert images of registration plates 10 into computer-readable data;

11 2. "Law enforcement agency" includes the district attorney's 12 office of any county, the Department of Public Safety, the sheriff's 13 office of any county, and the chiefs of police of any city or town 14 having a population of more than one hundred thousand (100,000) 15 residents; and

3. "Program" means the Uninsured Vehicle Enforcement Program.
SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 7-602, as
amended by Section 1, Chapter 146, O.S.L. 2015 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016,
Section 7-602), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 7-602. A. 1. The owner of a motor vehicle registered 21 in this state shall carry in the vehicle at all times a current 22 owner's security verification form listing the vehicle or an 23 equivalent form which has been issued by the Department of Public 24 Safety, and the operator of the vehicle shall produce the form upon request for inspection by any law enforcement officer or
 representative of the Department and, in case of an accident, the
 form shall be shown upon request to any person affected by the
 accident.

5 2. a. Every person registering a motor vehicle in this state, except a motor vehicle which is not being used 6 7 upon the public highways or public streets, or a manufactured home while on a permanent foundation, at 8 9 the time of registration of the vehicle, shall certify 10 the existence of security with respect to the vehicle by providing to a motor license agent or other 11 12 registering agency necessary information from the 13 current owner's security verification in a manner that allows verification of coverage through the online 14 verification system. The information shall include 15 the name or number issued by the National Association 16 of Insurance Commissioners of the current insurance 17 carrier authorized to do business in this state and 18 the policy number applicable to the vehicle being 19 registered. A motor license agent or other 20 registering agency shall require the submission of the 21 form or other verifying information prior to 22 processing an application for registration or renewal. 23

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1 Every motor license agent or other registering agency b. 2 shall use the online verification system to certify 3 the existence of security with respect to the vehicle from an insurance carrier authorized to do business in 4 5 this state unless the online verification system is not online or the required information is otherwise 6 7 not available. In such a case, the license agent or other registering agency may accept verification as 8 provided in subparagraph a of this paragraph or from a 9 10 licensed insurance producer or customer service 11 representative to certify the existence of the 12 required insurance prior to processing any application 13 for motor vehicle registration. Every motor license agent or other registering agent shall allow 14 15 submission of proof from a licensed insurance producer 16 or customer service representative pursuant to this subparagraph via electronic mail at no additional cost 17 18 to the person registering the vehicle. 3. Fleet vehicles operating under the authority of the 19

20 Corporation Commission, the Federal Highway Administration, or 21 vehicles registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 1120 of 22 this title, shall certify the existence of security with respect to 23 each vehicle at the time of registration by submitting one of the 24 following:

- a. a current owner's security verification form verifying
 the existence of security as required by the
 Compulsory Insurance Law, or
- a permit number verified by the Corporation Commission 4 b. 5 indicating the existence of a current liability insurance policy. Provided, in the event the 6 7 Corporation Commission is unable to verify the existence of insurance as provided herein in a prompt 8 9 and timely fashion, the Corporation Commission may 10 accept a current single state registration form issued 11 by the Corporation Commission or any other regulating 12 entity with which the Corporation Commission has 13 entered into a reciprocal compact or agreement regarding the regulation of motor vehicles engaged in 14 15 interstate or foreign commerce upon and over the 16 public highways.

4. The following shall not be required to carry an owner's or operator's security verification form or an equivalent form from the Department of Public Safety during operation of the vehicle and shall not be required to surrender a security verification form for vehicle registration purposes:

a. any vehicle owned or leased by the federal or state
government, or any agency or political subdivision
thereof,

- b. any vehicle bearing the name, symbol, or logo of a
 business, corporation or utility on the exterior and
 which is in compliance with the provisions of the
 Compulsory Insurance Law according to records of the
 Corporation Commission which reflect a deposit or
 fleet policy,
- c. fleet vehicles maintaining current vehicle liability
 insurance as required by the Corporation Commission or
 any other regulating entity,
- 10 d. any licensed taxicab, and
- e. any vehicle owned by a licensed used motor vehicledealer.

Any person who knowingly issues or promulgates false or 13 5. fraudulent information in connection with either an owner's or 14 operator's security verification form or an equivalent form which 15 has been issued by the Department of Public Safety shall be guilty 16 of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine not 17 exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or imprisonment for not 18 more than six (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. 19 Each motor license agent is authorized to charge a fee of 20 Β. One Dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) to each person to whom the agent 21 issues a certificate of registration and who is required to 22

23 surrender proof of financial responsibility, or for whom the motor 24 license agent certifies the existence of financial responsibility

1	through an authorized online certification system, pursuant to the
2	provisions of the Compulsory Insurance Law. The fee may be retained
3	by the agent as compensation for services in processing the proof of
4	financial responsibility and for processing the driver license
5	information, insurance verification information, and other
6	additional information furnished to the agent pursuant to Section
7	1112 of this title, if such agent does not receive the maximum
8	compensation as authorized by law.
9	SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.
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11	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, dated 03/29/2017 - DO PASS.
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