

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1823

By: Dahm

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; creating the Basic Government Transparency Act; providing short title; defining terms; authorizing the Office of Management and Enterprise Services to facilitate certain creation of website; requiring governmental entities to establish certain website; providing for contents of website; requiring governmental entities to establish financial transparency register; providing for contents of registry; providing for penalty; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.9 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and be cited as the "Basic Government Transparency Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.10 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act:

1 1. "Agency" means a subdivision of a governmental entity with
2 authority to recommend or create laws, codes, ordinances, or public
3 policy or carry out such politics, including boards, bodies,
4 bureaus, commissions, contractors, councils, courts, departments,
5 electric co-ops, institutions, offices, officers, school districts,
6 and units;

7 2. "Business entity" means an individual, partnership, business
8 trust, cooperative, association, corporation, limited liability
9 company, or any other firm, group, or concern which functions as a
10 separate entity for business purposes;

11 3. "Governmental entity" means the government of this state,
12 county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state;
13 and

14 4. "Vendor" means an individual or business entity that
15 provides items, products, materials, supplies, services, or
16 equipment to governmental entities.

17 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.11 of Title 74, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. On or before the effective date of this act, the Office of
21 Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) shall establish and
22 maintain a jurisdictional transparency website that lists all
23 governmental entities with jurisdiction over an address entered by a
24 use of the website. Addresses may be entered specifically into a

1 dedicated search field or by indicating a point on an interactive
2 map. The list generated for each address shall contain the name of
3 every governmental entity with jurisdiction over the address. A
4 user shall be able to select a governmental entity from the list and
5 be linked to a continuously maintained website by the governmental
6 entity as provided for in subsection C of this section.

7 B. The state jurisdiction website shall be an official state
8 government website that is accessible by the public without cost or
9 subscription.

10 C. On or before the effective date of this act, each
11 governmental entity shall establish and maintain a governmental
12 transparency website. Information compiled by the governmental
13 entities shall be presented in a standardized format that is clear,
14 concise, and easily discoverable by the public and shall be
15 prominently featured on the governmental entity's Internet homepage.
16 Each governmental transparency website shall contain the following
17 information, or an easily accessible method to access the
18 information:

19 1. The name, mailing address, email address, and telephone
20 number of all officials with policymaking authority including, but
21 not limited to, the directors, or equivalent, of the governmental
22 entity or directors, or equivalent, of the governing bodies of the
23 relevant agencies;

1 2. For each official listed, a description of his or her
2 obtained office, including whether he or she was appointed or
3 elected, and, if appointed, by whom; the date that each policymaking
4 official assumed the office; and the date when his or her term shall
5 end;

6 3. Links to all statutes, rules, codes, and ordinances enacted
7 by the governmental entity;

8 4. Dates for all elections scheduled within the next two (2)
9 calendar years;

10 5. A list of taxes and fees controlled by the governmental
11 entity; and

12 6. A link to the financial transparency register for each
13 governmental entity as required by this act.

14 D. Each governmental transparency website shall be accessible
15 to the public at no cost or without subscription.

16 E. Each governmental entity shall submit to OMES a current link
17 to the relevant website containing the information required by
18 subsection C of this section. OMES shall establish by rule a
19 process by which each entity shall submit its website for review and
20 approval. OMES shall have the authority to determine a standardized
21 webpage by rule. Each governmental entity shall provide periodic
22 updates as may be established by rule no less than once per quarter.
23
24
25

1 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.12 of Title 74, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. On or before the effective date of this act, every
5 governmental entity shall establish and maintain a financial
6 transparency register listing all financial transactions of the
7 governmental entity. The register shall be updated quarterly, and
8 records shall be archived by the end of each fiscal year. The
9 governmental entity shall maintain public online access to archived
10 registers.

11 B. The website for the register shall present a financial
12 overview of the governmental entity in a manner intuitive to the
13 public. The financial overview shall include:

- 14 1. The total budget of the governmental entity;
- 15 2. The budget for each agency; and
- 16 3. The source and amount of revenues from each source.

17 C. The financial transparency register shall list each
18 transaction in excess of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00). The
19 register shall be downloadable in a spreadsheet format that may be
20 manipulated, searched, and sorted. There shall be no maximum on the
21 number of transactions that may be downloaded, and the register
22 shall be downloadable in its entirety. Each expenditure shall
23 include the following information:

- 1 1. The manner of payment including, but not limited to, check,
2 warrant of credit, debit, or other purchase card;
- 3 2. The funding source from which the expenditure was made;
- 4 3. The date and amount of each expenditure;
- 5 4. The agency or budget unit making the expenditure;
- 6 5. The name of the entity, person, or vendor receiving payment,
7 including the names of public employees on payroll, and if
8 applicable, a vendor number; and
- 9 6. An explanation of the object or purpose of the expenditure.
10 The explanation shall be unique and specific to each transaction.

11 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.13 of Title 74, unless there
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 Any governmental entity that fails to comply with the provisions
15 of this act on or after the effective date of this act shall be
16 subjected to the penalties pursuant to Section 24.1 of Title 51 of
17 the Oklahoma Statutes.

18 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

19
20 59-2-3386 MR 1/17/2024 4:18:45 PM
21
22
23
24
25