1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)
4	ENGROSSED SENATE
5	BILL NO. 498 By: Thompson and McCortney of the Senate
6	and
7	Fetgatter of the House
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9	
10	[ ad valorem tax exemption - providing waiver of
11	certain payroll requirement -
12	emergency ]
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15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
15 16	<b>BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:</b> SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as
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16 17	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp.
16 17 18	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2902), is amended to read as follows:
16 17 18 19	<pre>SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2902), is amended to read as follows: Section 2902. A. Except as otherwise provided by subsection H</pre>
16 17 18 19 20	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2902), is amended to read as follows: Section 2902. A. Except as otherwise provided by subsection H of Section 3658 of this title pursuant to which the exemption
16 17 18 19 20 21	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 2902), is amended to read as follows: Section 2902. A. Except as otherwise provided by subsection H of Section 3658 of this title pursuant to which the exemption authorized by this section may not be claimed, a qualifying

1 acquired manufacturing facilities, including facilities engaged in 2 research and development, for a period of five (5) years. The provisions of Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution 3 requiring an existing facility to have been unoccupied for a period 4 5 of twelve (12) months prior to acquisition shall be construed as a qualification for a facility to initially receive an exemption, and 6 shall not be deemed to be a qualification for that facility to 7 continue to receive an exemption in each of the four (4) years 8 9 following the initial year for which the exemption was granted. 10 Such facilities are hereby classified for the purposes of taxation as provided in Section 22 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution. 11

B. For purposes of this section, the following definitionsshall apply:

14 1. "Manufacturing facilities" means facilities engaged in the
 15 mechanical or chemical transformation of materials or substances
 16 into new products and except as provided by paragraph 8 of
 17 subsection C of this section shall include:

a. establishments which have received a manufacturer
exemption permit pursuant to the provisions of Section
1359.2 of this title,

b. facilities, including repair and replacement parts,
primarily engaged in aircraft repair, building and
rebuilding whether or not on a factory basis,

1 establishments primarily engaged in computer services с. and data processing as defined under Industrial Group 2 Numbers 5112 and 5415, and U.S. Industry Number 334611 3 and 519130 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, and 4 5 which derive at least fifty percent (50%) of their annual gross revenues from the sale of a product or 6 service to an out-of-state buyer or consumer, and as 7 defined under Industrial Group Number 5142 of the 8 9 NAICS Manual, latest revision, which derive at least 10 eighty percent (80%) of their annual gross revenues 11 from the sale of a product or service to an out-of-12 state buyer or consumer. Eligibility as a 13 manufacturing facility pursuant to this subparagraph shall be established, subject to review by the 14 Oklahoma Tax Commission, by annually filing an 15 affidavit with the Tax Commission stating that the 16 facility so gualifies and such other information as 17 required by the Tax Commission. For purposes of 18 determining whether annual gross revenues are derived 19 from sales to out-of-state buyers, all sales to the 20 federal government shall be considered to be an out-21 of-state buyer, 22

## d. for which the investment cost of the construction, acquisition or expansion of the manufacturing facility

1 is Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) or Provided, "investment cost" shall not include 2 more. 3 the cost of direct replacement, refurbishment, repair or maintenance of existing machinery or equipment, 4 5 except that "investment cost" shall include capital expenditures for direct replacement, refurbishment, 6 7 repair or maintenance of existing machinery or equipment that qualifies for depreciation and/or 8 9 amortization pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 10 1986, as amended, and such expenditures shall be 11 eligible as a part of an "expansion" that otherwise 12 qualifies under this section, and 13 establishments primarily engaged in distribution as e. 14

14 defined under Industry Numbers 49311, 49312, 49313 and 15 49319 and Industry Sector Number 42 of the NAICS 16 Manual, latest revision, and which meet the following 17 qualifications:

- (1) construction with an initial capital investmentof at least Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00),
- 20 (2) employment of at least one hundred (100) full21 time-equivalent employees, as certified by the
  22 Oklahoma Employment Security Commission,
  23 (3) payment of wages or salaries to its employees at
  a wage which equals or exceeds one hundred

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seventy-five percent (175%) of the federally mandated minimum wage, as certified by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, and (4) commencement of construction on or after November 1, 2007, with construction to be completed within three (3) years from the date of the commencement of construction.

8 Eligibility as a manufacturing facility pursuant to this 9 subparagraph shall be established, subject to review by the Tax 10 Commission, by annually filing an affidavit with the Tax Commission 11 stating that the facility so qualifies and containing such other 12 information as required by the Tax Commission.

Provided, eating and drinking places, as well as other retail establishments, shall not qualify as manufacturing facilities for purposes of this section, nor shall centrally assessed properties.

16 Eligibility as a manufacturing facility pursuant to this 17 subparagraph shall be established, subject to review by the Tax 18 Commission, by annually filing an application with the Tax 19 Commission stating that the facility so qualifies and containing 20 such other information as required by the Tax Commission;

21 2. "Facility" and "facilities" means and includes the land, 22 buildings, structures, improvements, machinery, fixtures, equipment 23 and other personal property used directly and exclusively in the 24 manufacturing process; and

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3. "Research and development" means activities directly related
 to and conducted for the purpose of discovering, enhancing,
 increasing or improving future or existing products or processes or
 productivity.

C. The following provisions shall apply:

A manufacturing concern shall be entitled to the exemption
herein provided for each new manufacturing facility constructed,
each existing manufacturing facility acquired and the expansion of
existing manufacturing facilities on the same site, as such terms
are defined by Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution
and by this section;

12 2. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph 5 of this 13 subsection, no manufacturing concern shall receive more than one 14 five-year exemption for any one manufacturing facility unless the 15 expansion which qualifies the manufacturing facility for an 16 additional five-year exemption meets the requirements of paragraph 4 17 of this subsection and the employment level established for any 18 previous exemption is maintained;

Any exemption as to the expansion of an existing
 manufacturing facility shall be limited to the increase in ad
 valorem taxes directly attributable to the expansion;

4. Except as provided in paragraphs 5 and, 6 and 10 of this
subsection, all initial applications for any exemption for a new,

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1 acquired or expanded manufacturing facility shall be granted only
2 if:

3 there is a net increase in annualized base payroll a. over the initial payroll of at least Two Hundred Fifty 4 5 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) if the facility is located in a county with a population of fewer than 6 seventy-five thousand (75,000), according to the most 7 recent Federal Decennial Census, while maintaining or 8 9 increasing base payroll in subsequent years, or at 10 least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) if the facility is located in a county with a population of 11 12 seventy-five thousand (75,000) or more, according to 13 the most recent Federal Decennial Census, while maintaining or increasing base payroll in subsequent 14 15 years; provided the payroll requirement of this subparagraph shall be waived for claims for 16 exemptions  $\tau$  including claims previously denied or on 17 appeal on March 3, 2010, for all initial applications 18 for exemption filed on or after January 1, 2004, and 19 on or before March 31, 2009, and all subsequent annual 20 exemption applications filed related to the initial 21 application for exemption, for an applicant, if the 22 facility has been located in Oklahoma for at least 23 fifteen (15) years engaged in marine engine 24

1 manufacturing as defined under U.S. Industry Number 333618 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, and has 2 3 maintained an average employment of five hundred (500) or more full-time-equivalent employees over a ten-year 4 5 period. Any applicant that qualifies for the payroll requirement waiver as outlined in the previous 6 7 sentence and subsequently closes its Oklahoma manufacturing plant prior to January 1, 2012, may be 8 9 disqualified for exemption and subject to recapture. 10 For an applicant engaged in paperboard manufacturing 11 as defined under U.S. Industry Number 322130 of the 12 NAICS Manual, latest revision, union master payouts 13 paid by the buyer of the facility to specified individuals employed by the facility at the time of 14 15 purchase, as specified under the purchase agreement, shall be excluded from payroll for purposes of this 16 section. 17 In order to provide certainty with respect to 18 investments in manufacturing facilities pertaining to 19

all initial applications for exemption filed on or after January 1, 2016, the following definitions shall apply:

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(1) "base payroll" shall mean total payroll adjusted for any nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of stock 1 option or stock rights and other nonrecurring, extraordinary items included in total payroll, and

- (2) "initial payroll" shall mean base payroll for the 4 5 year immediately preceding the initial construction, acquisition or expansion. 6 The Tax Commission shall verify payroll information 7 through the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission by 8 9 using reports from the Oklahoma Employment Security 10 Commission for the calendar year immediately preceding the year for which initial application is made for 11 12 base-line payroll, which must be maintained or 13 increased for each subsequent year; provided, a manufacturing facility shall have the option of 14 15 excluding from its payroll, for purposes of this section: 16 i.
- 17 payments to sole proprietors, members of a partnership, members of a limited 18 liability company who own at least ten 19 20 percent (10%) of the capital of the limited liability company or 21 stockholder-employees of a corporation 22 23 who own at least ten percent (10%) of the stock in the corporation, and 24

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1	ii. any nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of
2	stock option or stock rights or other
3	nonrecurring, extraordinary items
4	included in total payroll numbers as
5	reported by the Oklahoma Employment
6	Security Commission. A manufacturing
7	facility electing either option shall
8	indicate such election upon its
9	application for an exemption under this
10	section. Any manufacturing facility
11	electing either option shall submit
12	such information as the Tax Commission
13	may require in order to verify payroll
14	information. Payroll information
15	submitted pursuant to the provisions of
16	this paragraph shall be submitted to
17	the Tax Commission and shall be subject
18	to the provisions of Section 205 of
19	this title, and
20	b. the facility offers, or will offer within one hundred
21	eighty (180) days of the date of employment, a basic
22	health benefits plan to the full-time-equivalent
23	employees of the facility, which is determined by the
24	Department of Commerce to consist of the elements

specified in subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 3603 of this title or elements substantially equivalent thereto.

For purposes of this section, calculation of the amount of 4 5 increased base payroll shall be measured from the start of initial construction or expansion to the completion of such construction or 6 7 expansion or for three (3) years from the start of initial construction or expansion, whichever occurs first. The amount of 8 9 increased base payroll shall include payroll for full-time-10 equivalent employees in this state who are employed by an entity 11 other than the facility which has previously or is currently 12 qualified to receive an exemption pursuant to the provisions of this 13 section and who are leased or otherwise provided to the facility, if such employment did not exist in this state prior to the start of 14 15 initial construction or expansion of the facility. The manufacturing concern shall submit an affidavit to the Tax 16 17 Commission, signed by an officer, stating that the construction, acquisition or expansion of the facility will result in a net 18 increase in the annualized base payroll as required by this 19 paragraph and that full-time-equivalent employees of the facility 20 are or will be offered a basic health benefits plan as required by 21 this paragraph. If, after the completion of such construction or 22 expansion or after three (3) years from the start of initial 23 construction or expansion, whichever occurs first, the construction, 24

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1 acquisition or expansion has not resulted in a net increase in the 2 amount of annualized base payroll, if required, or any other 3 qualification specified in this paragraph has not been met, the 4 manufacturing concern shall pay an amount equal to the amount of any 5 exemption granted, including penalties and interest thereon, to the 6 Tax Commission for deposit to the Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund;

7 5. If a facility fails to meet the base payroll requirement of subparagraph a of paragraph 4 of this subsection, the payroll 8 9 requirement shall be waived for claims for exemptions  $\overline{r}$  including 10 claims previously denied or on appeal on June 1, 2009, for all 11 initial applications for exemption filed on or after January 1, 2004, and on or before March 31, 2009, and all subsequent annual 12 13 exemption applications filed related to such initial application for exemption, for an applicant, if the facility: 14

has been located for at least five (5) years as of 15 a. March 31, 2009, in a county in Oklahoma with a 16 population of six hundred thousand (600,000) or more, 17 is owned by an applicant that has been engaged in 18 b. manufacturing as defined under U.S. Industry Numbers 19 323110, 323111, 323121 and 323122 of the NAICS Manual, 20 latest revision, 21 is owned by an applicant that maintains a workforce of 22 с. at least three hundred (300) employees on June 1, 23

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2009,

- d. is owned by an applicant that has filed multiple
   applications for exemption pursuant to this section,
   and
- e. is owned by an applicant that operates at least one
  facility in this state of at least seven hundred

thirty thousand (730,000) square feet on June 1, 2009.

7 In the event that any applicant obtaining a waiver of the payroll requirement pursuant to this paragraph ceases to operate all of its 8 9 facilities in this state on or before a date that is four (4) years 10 after any initial application for an exemption is filed by such 11 applicant, all sums of property taxes exempted under this paragraph 12 through a waiver of the payroll requirement that relate to such 13 application shall become due and payable as if such sums were assessed in the year in which the applicant ceases to operate all of 14 its facilities in the state; 15

Any new, acquired or expanded automotive final assembly 16 6. manufacturing facility which does not meet the requirements of 17 paragraph 4 of this subsection shall be granted an exemption only if 18 all other requirements of this section are met and only if the 19 20 investment cost of the construction, acquisition or expansion of the manufacturing facility is Three Hundred Million Dollars 21 (\$300,000,000.00) or more and the manufacturing facility retains an 22 average employment of one thousand seven hundred fifty (1,750) or 23 more full-time-equivalent employees in the year in which the 24

1 exemption is initially granted and in each of the four (4) 2 subsequent years only if an average employment of one thousand seven 3 hundred fifty (1,750) or more full-time-equivalent employees is maintained in the subsequent year. Any property installed to 4 5 replace property damaged by the tornado or natural disaster that occurred May 8, 2003, may continue to receive the exemption provided 6 in this paragraph for the full five-year period based on the value 7 of the previously qualifying assets as of January 1, 2003. 8 The 9 exemption shall continue in effect as long as all other 10 qualifications in this paragraph are met. If the average employment of one thousand seven hundred fifty (1,750) or more full-time-11 12 equivalent employees is reduced as a result of temporary layoffs 13 because of a tornado or natural disaster on May 8, 2003, then the average employment requirement shall be waived for year 2003 of the 14 exemption period. Calculation of the number of employees shall be 15 made in the same manner as required under Section 2357.4 of this 16 17 title for an investment tax credit. As used in this paragraph, "expand" and "expansion" shall mean and include any increase to the 18 size or scope of a facility as well as any renovation, restoration, 19 replacement or remodeling of a facility which permits the 20 manufacturing of a new or redesigned product; 21

7. Any new, acquired, or expanded computer data processing,
data preparation, or information processing services provider
classified in Industrial Group Number 7374 of the SIC Manual, latest

1 revision, and U.S. Industry Number 514210 of the North American
2 Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Manual, latest revision,
3 may apply for exemptions under this section for each year in which
4 new, acquired, or expanded capital improvements to the facility are
5 made if:

- there is a net increase in annualized payroll of the 6 a. 7 applicant at any facility or facilities of the applicant in this state of at least Two Hundred Fifty 8 9 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), which is attributable 10 to the capital improvements, or a net increase of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000.00) or more in 11 12 capital improvements, while maintaining or increasing 13 payroll at the facility or facilities in this state which are included in the application, and 14 the facility offers, or will offer within one hundred 15 b. eighty (180) days of the date of employment of new 16 employees attributable to the capital improvements, a 17 basic health benefits plan to the full-time-equivalent 18 employees of the facility, which is determined by the 19 Department of Commerce to consist of the elements 20 specified in subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of 21 subsection A of Section 3603 of this title or elements 22 substantially equivalent thereto; 23
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1 8. Effective January 1, 2017, an entity engaged in electric power generation by means of wind, as described by the North 2 3 American Industry Classification System, No. 221119, shall not be defined as a qualifying manufacturing concern for purposes of the 4 5 exemption otherwise authorized pursuant to Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution or qualify as a "manufacturing 6 facility" as defined in this section. No initial application for 7 exemption shall be filed by or accepted from an entity engaged in 8 9 electric power generation by means of wind on or after January 1, 10 2018; and

11 9. An entity or applicant engaged in an industry as defined 12 under U.S. Industry Number 324110 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, which has applied for or been granted an exemption for a 13 time period which began on or after calendar year 2012 and before 14 15 calendar year 2016 but which did not meet the payroll requirements of subparagraph a of paragraph 4 of this subsection because of 16 nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of stock option or stock rights or 17 other nonrecurring, extraordinary items included in total payroll in 18 the previous year, shall be allowed an exemption, beginning with 19 calendar year 2016, for the number of years - including the calendar 20 year for which the exemption was denied, remaining in the entity's 21 five-year exemption period, provided such entity attains or 22 increases payroll at or above the initial or base payroll 23

24 established for the exemption; and

1 10. A facility engaged in manufacturing defined under U.S. 2 Industry Number 327310 of the NAICS Manual shall have the payroll 3 requirements of paragraph 4 of this subsection waived for tax year 4 2021, which is based in part on the 2020 calendar year payroll 5 reported to the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, and may continue to receive the exemption for the five-year period provided 6 in this section only if all other requirements of this section are 7 8 met.

9 D. 1. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection, 10 the five-year period of exemption from ad valorem taxes for any 11 qualifying manufacturing facility property shall begin on January 1 12 following the initial qualifying use of the property in the 13 manufacturing process.

2. The five-year period of exemption from ad valorem taxes for 14 any qualifying manufacturing facility, as specified in subparagraphs 15 a and b of this paragraph, which is located within a tax incentive 16 district created pursuant to the Local Development Act by a county 17 having a population of at least five hundred thousand (500,000), 18 according to the most recent Federal Decennial Census, shall begin 19 on January 1 following the expiration or termination of the ad 20 valorem exemption, abatement, or other incentive provided through 21 the tax incentive district. Facilities qualifying pursuant to this 22 subsection shall include: 23

1 a manufacturing facility as defined in subparagraph c a. 2 of paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section, and 3 b. an establishment primarily engaged in distribution as defined under Industry Number 49311 of the North 4 5 American Industry Classification System for which the initial capital investment was at least One Hundred 6 Eighty Million Dollars (\$180,000,000.00); provided, 7 that the qualifying job creation and depreciable 8 9 property investment occurred prior to calendar year 10 2017 but not earlier than calendar year 2013.

11 Ε. Any person, firm or corporation claiming the exemption 12 herein provided for shall file each year for which exemption is claimed, an application therefor with the county assessor of the 13 county in which the new, expanded or acquired facility is located. 14 The application shall be on a form or forms prescribed by the Tax 15 Commission, and shall be filed on or before March 15, except as 16 provided in Section 2902.1 of this title, of each year in which the 17 facility desires to take the exemption or within thirty (30) days 18 from and after receipt by such person, firm or corporation of notice 19 of valuation increase, whichever is later. In a case where 20 completion of the facility or facilities will occur after January 1 21 of a given year, a facility may apply to claim the ad valorem tax 22 exemption for that year. If such facility is found to be qualified 23 for exemption, the ad valorem tax exemption provided for herein 24

1 shall be granted for that entire year and shall apply to the ad 2 valorem valuation as of January 1 of that given year. For 3 applicants which qualify under the provisions of subparagraph b of 4 paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section, the application shall 5 include a copy of the affidavit and any other information required 6 to be filed with the Tax Commission.

7 The application shall be examined by the county assessor and F. approved or rejected in the same manner as provided by law for 8 9 approval or rejection of claims for homestead exemptions. The 10 taxpayer shall have the same right of review by and appeal from the 11 county board of equalization, in the same manner and subject to the 12 same requirements as provided by law for review and appeals 13 concerning homestead exemption claims. Approved applications shall be filed by the county assessor with the Tax Commission no later 14 15 than June 15, except as provided in Section 2902.1 of this title, of 16 the year in which the facility desires to take the exemption. 17 Incomplete applications and applications filed after June 15 will be declared null and void by the Tax Commission. In the event that a 18 taxpayer qualified to receive an exemption pursuant to the 19 provisions of this section shall make payment of ad valorem taxes in 20 excess of the amount due, the county treasurer shall have the 21 authority to credit the taxpayer's real or personal property tax 22 overpayment against current taxes due. The county treasurer may 23

establish a schedule of up to five (5) years of credit to resolve
 the overpayment.

G. Nothing herein shall in any manner affect, alter or impair any law relating to the assessment of property, and all property, real or personal, which may be entitled to exemption hereunder shall be valued and assessed as is other like property and as provided by law. The valuation and assessment of property for which an exemption is granted hereunder shall be performed by the Tax Commission.

H. The Tax Commission shall have the authority and duty to
prescribe forms and to promulgate rules as may be necessary to carry
out and administer the terms and provisions of this section.
SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation

14 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby 15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and 16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated 04/15/2021 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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