

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 564

By: Hall of the Senate

3 and

4 Mize of the House

5  
6 An Act relating to counties and county officers;  
7 amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section 455, which relates to  
8 county reward fund; providing for a plea agreement in  
9 dispersion of reward; providing for consideration by  
10 board of county commissioners and local law  
11 enforcement following attorney's report; providing  
12 criteria by which the board of county commissioners  
13 may consider reward amount; requiring conviction or  
14 plea agreement before dispersion of reward; and  
15 providing an effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 455, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 455. A. The board of county commissioners of each  
20 county is hereby authorized to offer and pay a reward, from county  
21 funds, in an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
22 for the arrest and conviction or plea agreement, or for evidence  
23 leading to the arrest and conviction or plea agreement of any person  
24 stealing or defacing county road signs or any other county property.

B. The board of county commissioners may create and maintain a  
reward fund of not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) from

1 which to pay the rewards provided for in subsection A of this  
2 section.

3 C. All claims relating to a conviction or plea agreement shall  
4 be considered together by the board of county commissioners and  
5 local law enforcement following receipt of the prosecuting  
6 attorney's report.

7 D. In determining the amount of the reward, the board of county  
8 commissioners shall have sole discretion to honor or deny the claim,  
9 but shall consider:

10 1. The severity of the offense;

11 2. The size of the fine imposed;

12 3. The number of persons claiming a reward and the degree to  
13 which each claimant was responsible for the arrest or conviction;

14 4. The burden, if any, incurred by the claimant including cost  
15 to appear at trial; and

16 5. Other factors which the board or governing body deems  
17 appropriate.

18 E. No reward shall be authorized by the county until the  
19 conviction or plea agreement of the accused.

20 F. Any person convicted under subsection A of this section may  
21 in lieu of the fine be required to deposit like amount into the  
22 county reward fund.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective December 1, 2021.

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1 Passed the Senate the 4th day of March, 2021.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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5 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
6 2021.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

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