

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 564

By: Hall of the Senate

and

6 Mize and **Caldwell (Trey)** of
7 the House

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

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

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

23 Section 455. A. The board of county commissioners of each
24 county is hereby authorized to offer and pay a reward, from county
25 funds, in an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)
26 for the arrest and conviction or plea agreement, or for evidence

1 leading to the arrest and conviction or plea agreement of any person
2 stealing or defacing county road signs or any other county property.

3 B. The board of county commissioners may create and maintain a
4 reward fund of not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) from
5 which to pay the rewards provided for in subsection A of this
6 section.

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

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

14 1. The severity of the offense;

15 2. The size of the fine imposed;

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

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

20 5. Other factors which the board or governing body deems
21 appropriate.

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

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

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

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6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT,
7 dated 04/05/2021 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.
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