

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 766

By: Stephens

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to county hearings and meetings;  
8 amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section 326, which relates to  
9 meetings; increasing term of public notice  
10 requirement; amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section 1412, as  
11 amended by Section 2, Chapter 292, O.S.L. 2018 (19  
12 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1412), which relates to the  
13 County Budget Act; increasing term for public hearing  
14 to be held; increasing term of public notice  
15 requirement; and 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 326, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 326. A. In addition to the special sessions for  
20 equalizing assessments, and all other special sessions now provided  
21 by law, the county commissioners shall meet and hold sessions for  
22 the transaction of business in the county courthouse, at the county  
23 seat, on or before the first Monday of each month, and may remain in  
24 session as long as the public business may require, and the passing  
upon, allowing or rejecting of bills against the county shall be  
taken up and passed upon by the board in the order in which the

1 claims have been filed, and in which order such claims must be  
2 entered upon the calendar, except salary, wage and compensation  
3 claims of officers and deputies and employees, which salary, wage  
4 and compensation claims may be considered and paid, on or after the  
5 termination of the service pay period; provided, that such claims by  
6 subordinate deputies and employees be first approved by the officer  
7 having charge of the office or department. The board of county  
8 commissioners may recess or adjourn its meetings within the session,  
9 either from time to time or from day to day, or on call of the  
10 chairman; but, if such board does not sooner adjourn its session for  
11 any month, such session shall terminate and be adjourned by  
12 operation of law on the last business day of such month. If the  
13 board shall have adjourned its session before the last business day  
14 of any month, the county clerk shall have power to call special  
15 sessions when the best interests of the county demand it, upon  
16 giving ~~five (5) days' notice~~ ten (10) days' notice of the time and  
17 object of calling the commissioners together, by posting up notices  
18 in three public places in the county, or by publication in some  
19 newspaper of general circulation in the county; provided, that in  
20 the case of a vacancy in the office of county clerk, the chairman of  
21 the board shall have power to call a special session for the purpose  
22 of filling such vacancy.

23 B. The board of county commissioners may meet at times and in  
24 places within the county other than the county courthouse if it is

1 determined that such meetings are beneficial to the general public.  
2 Such meetings shall be in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting  
3 Act.

4 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 1412, as  
5 amended by Section 2, Chapter 292, O.S.L. 2018 (19 O.S. Supp. 2020,  
6 Section 1412), is amended to read as follows:

7 Section 1412. The county budget board shall hold a public  
8 hearing on the proposed budget no later than ~~fifteen (15) days~~  
9 thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of the budget year. Notice  
10 of the date, time and place of the hearing, together with the  
11 proposed budget summaries, shall be published on the county's  
12 website and in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not  
13 less than ~~five (5) days~~ ten (10) days before the date of the  
14 hearing. Affidavit and proof of publication shall be attached to  
15 the budget when filed with the county excise board and State Auditor  
16 and Inspector. The county clerk shall make available a sufficient  
17 number of copies of the proposed budgets as the county budget board  
18 shall determine and have them available for review or for  
19 distribution or sale at the office of the county clerk. At the  
20 public hearing on the budgets, any person may present to the county  
21 budget board comments, recommendations or information on any part of  
22 the proposed budget.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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