

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 85

By: Fry of the Senate

2
3 and

4 Roberts (Dustin) of the
House

5
6 An Act relating to utility relocation in rights-of-
7 way; amending 69 O.S. 2011, Section 1205, which
8 relates to right-of-way acquisition; adding certain
exemption for certain fund match; providing an
effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

11 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2011, Section 1205, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 1205. The policy which the Commission shall follow in
14 the acquisition of all rights-of-way shall be as follows:

15 (a) For construction on the Interstate Highway System within
16 the limits of municipalities having a population of five thousand
17 (5,000) or more, federal aid funds, if available, may be used for
18 the acquisition of rights-of-way, and shall, if available, be used
19 to pay the cost of the removing or relocating of utility facilities
20 located in either privately owned or public rights-of-way, ~~and in.~~
21 In such event the municipality in which such construction is to be
22 performed shall furnish funds to the state necessary to match the
23 federal funds, unless the utility requiring relocation is owned by
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1 another municipality having a population of five thousand (5,000) or
2 more, in which case the utility owner shall furnish the funds.

3 (b) For construction on the Interstate Highway System in all
4 locations other than within the limits of municipalities having a
5 population of five thousand (5,000) or over, and where control of
6 access is required, the state shall furnish all rights-of-way and
7 may use federal aid funds, if available, for such purpose, and when
8 federal aid funds are available for such purpose, shall pay the cost
9 of removing or relocating utility facilities located on either
10 privately owned or public rights-of-way.

11 (c) For all construction projects within the limits of
12 municipalities, other than projects on the Interstate Highway
13 System, as described in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, the
14 municipality or county involved and the Department shall equally
15 share the cost of all necessary rights-of-way, clear of all
16 obstructions, including structures of any kind or nature and utility
17 lines, poles, pipelines or other facilities above or below the
18 surface of the ground. If federal aid funds are available for the
19 project, the municipality or county and the Department shall equally
20 share the local portion of the costs for acquiring and clearing the
21 right-of-way, including the cost of removing and relocating utility
22 facilities located on privately owned rights-of-way.

23 (d) In any municipality where the Commission has determined it
24 to be necessary to construct a highway through or within the

1 corporate limits, and further determines that the construction will
2 not benefit the municipality involved, or that the construction will
3 benefit state-owned property or institutions, the Commission may, in
4 its discretion, pay for or participate in the cost of rights-of-way
5 for such project.

6 (e) For all reconstruction or widening projects on existing
7 improved roads of permanent-type surface in rural areas, the
8 Department shall pay fifty percent (50%) of the cost of any
9 additional rights-of-way required to meet right-of-way standard-
10 width requirements, and the remaining fifty percent (50%) shall be
11 furnished or paid for by local units of government; provided,
12 however, that no right-of-way shall be acquired under the terms of
13 this article, except by due process of law.

14 (f) ~~Repealed by Laws 1971, c. 355, § 8. See note below.~~

15 ~~(g)~~ For new construction on unsurfaced roads where the
16 construction follows a section line or an existing unimproved road,
17 all rights-of-way shall be furnished by local units of government
18 free of cost to the Department; provided, should the new or
19 additional rights-of-way, either contiguous or adjacent to the
20 section line or existing unimproved road, be acquired only on one
21 side of the section line or road, then one-half of the cost shall be
22 borne by the state.

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1 ~~(h)~~ (g) For all new construction diagonally across country or
2 not following on a section line road or other existing unimproved
3 road, the rights-of-way shall be paid for by the Department.

4 ~~(i)~~ (h) In securing the necessary rights-of-way in rural areas,
5 the state shall pay for all damages to buildings, improvements,
6 fences and all other appurtenances thereto, or their moving and
7 relocating.

8 ~~(j)~~ (i) In any county where a proposed alignment for a highway
9 project on the primary system shall not come within one-half (1/2)
10 mile of the limits of any municipality within the county, or
11 contribute to the highway transportation system or to the economy of
12 the county, the Commission may in its discretion increase the amount
13 of the state's participation in the cost of rights-of-way for such
14 projects.

15 ~~(k)~~ (j) The term "utility facility" as used herein means any
16 publicly, privately, municipally or cooperatively owned facility or
17 system which is used to provide water, power, light, gas, sewer,
18 telegraph, telephone and communications, or like utility service, to
19 the public in the State of Oklahoma, or some portion thereof.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

21 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
22 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
23 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
24 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

