

2023 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM STUDIES

The House has requested 110 interim studies. The House will announce the deadlines when the list of approved studies is released. Below is a list of those requested studies that may impact municipal operations:

Water Consumption:

H23-011 by Rep. Carl Newton

Examine the underground water system.

Criminal Justice:

H23-025 by Rep. Justin Humphrey

Examine restructuring the criminal justice system in Oklahoma.

Elections:

H23-028 by Rep. Justin Humphrey

Examine the Ethics Commission to see if holding campaign contributions accountable as money has poured into Oklahoma with very little accountability or oversight.

Court Diversion Programs:

H23-031 by Rep. Jason Lowe

Examine the effectiveness of Oklahoma court diversion programs and court fees.

Electric Providers:

H23-032 by Rep. Trey Caldwell

Examine:

- 1) The efficient processing of utility rate reviews (known as Performance Based Rates), and
- 2) The merits of incumbent electric companies having a "right of first refusal" (ROFR) to construct electric transmission lines in their respective service territories.

Economic Development:

H23-038 by Rep. Tom Gann

To better understand government's role in economic development by clarifying the boundaries and requirements of transparency and accountability. To study the use of economic incentives, and to determine how the return on investment is calculated and justified for the use of taxpayer dollars going to private entities. To discuss what responsibilities government has or might not have that are often overlooked because of the emphasis of providing incentives to business.

Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance and Improvement: Government, Construction & Engineering Industries: H23-039 by Rep. Nicole Miller & Rep. Ronny Johns

Explore and seek to identify solutions to some of the most critical challenges currently being faced by the governmental entities, companies and industries who design and construct, maintain and improve transportation infrastructure in our state. Some of these issues presenting hardship to the parties are:

- Inflation, Interest Rate and Reduction in Buying Power
- Supply Chain and Material Availability
- Workforce (both near term and future)
- Regulatory and Bureaucratic Constraints

Affordable Housing: H23-044 by Rep. Forrest Bennett & Rep. Daniel Pae

Research other states' successful affordable housing programs and explore the development of and access to affordable housing in Oklahoma.

Sales Tax Exemptions/Nonprofit Services: H23-047 by Rep. Marilyn Stark

Review the current Oklahoma Sales Tax Exemption policy for entities that are recognized by the Internal Revenue Services as tax exempt pursuant to 26 USC Section 501 (3) (c). This study would explore the potential benefits to the state of Oklahoma and the recipients of the services provided by the non-profit.

Energy: H23-053 by Rep. Chris Sneed

Oklahoma's ability to act as the state sees fit regarding the right to regulate our energy resources without federal intervention or interference. Energy freedom for the state would encompass all resources from coal, oil & gas, wind, electric or any resource. The study will examine Oklahoma's right to control its own resources.

Drug Courts & Resources: H23-083 by Rep. Suzanne Schreiber

A study to examine the needs and resources required to improve outcomes for drug courts/treatment in rural Oklahoma counties, including an examination of what other conservative states have done to improve outcomes.

Insurance/Government Property

H23-089 by Rep. Mark Tedford

Due to the escalating costs and deteriorating terms for property insurance in the private market, a study should be done to determine if it is feasible for the state to fund a risk sharing pool, which could be used to insure government property or help public entities fund the high self-insured retentions they are facing in the private market. The purpose would not be to compete with the private market but provide a residual market where the private market is struggling to provide good alternatives.

In the Senate, a total of 61 requests were approved and will now be heard before their respective committees for further consideration. It is now at the discretion of each committee chair whether to schedule the study. Below is a list of studies that are of interest to cities:

Flood Issues:

S23-001 by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom

Assigned to the Senate Energy & Telecommunications Committee

Update on Electric Vehicle Charging in OK

S23-002 by Sen. Mary Boren

Assigned to the Senate Aeronautics & Transportation Committee

Driving Under the Influence of Drugs:

S23-009 by Sen. Michael Brooks

Assigned to the Senate Public Safety Committee

Publishing Arrest of Booking Photos for Profit:

S23-017 by Sen. Jo Anna Dossett

Assigned to the Senate Public Safety Committee

Sales Tax Exemption on Gun Safes:

S23-019 by Sen. Jo Anna Dossett

Assigned to the Senate Finance Committee

Tort Reform:

S23-027 by Sen. Jessica Garvin

Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee

Pay Transparency:

S23-030 by Sen. Jessica Garvin

Assigned to the Senate Business & Commerce Committee

- Governmental Tort Claims:** **S23-037 by Sen. Brent Howard**
Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee
- Judicial Reforms:** **S23-039 by Sen. Brent Howard**
Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee
- Oklahoma Tax Commission Fees:** **S23-040 by Sen. Darcy Jech**
Assigned to the Senate Finance Committee
- Housing for All Oklahomans:** **S23-044 by Sen. Julia Kirt**
Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee
- Performance Based Rates & Right of First Refusal:** **S23-053 by Sen. Lonnie Paxton**
Assigned to the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee
- Electricity:** **S23-056 by Sen. Dana Prieto**
Assigned to the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee
- ESG & Oklahoma Operations:** **S23-060 by Sen. Dave Rader**
Assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee
- Discriminatory Hiring Practice Protections:** **S23-068 by Sen. Jack Stewart**
Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee
- PTSD/Mental Health Issues for First Responders:** **S23-071 by Sen. Darrell Weaver**
Assigned to the Senate Health & Human Services Committee