

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 HOUSE BILL 1365

By: Bush

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to transportation; creating the
8 Office of Mobility and Public Transit; transferring
9 certain responsibilities and programs; specifying
10 duties of the Office; authorizing funding and
11 implementation of certain programs; authorizing
12 funding and implementation of expansion of certain
13 call center; authorizing funding and joint
14 development of certain plan; providing for certain
15 plan requirements; allowing for certain public
16 transit agencies to secure funding; transferring the
17 Transit Division within the Department of
18 Transportation, including oversight and management of
19 Federal Transit Administration grants and resources
20 and the State Management Plan, to the Office of
21 Mobility and Public Transit; providing for assumption
22 of responsibilities; defining term; providing for
23 transfer of property; providing for transfer of
24 functions, powers, duties and obligations; providing
for transfer of all rules, regulations, acts, orders,
contracts, determinations and decisions; providing
for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 322 of Title 69, unless there is
created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. There is hereby created the Office of Mobility and Public
2 Transit within the Department of Transportation. All current
3 Transit Division responsibilities, including oversight and
4 management of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants and
5 resources and the State Management Plan, are moved to the Office of
6 Mobility and Public Transit. All Federal Transit Administration
7 program implementation not currently managed by the Department of
8 Transportation shall be moved to the Office of Mobility and Public
9 Transit from other state agencies and programs. The Office of
10 Mobility and Public Transit is charged with overseeing a network of
11 public transit systems that receive adequate funding to ensure the
12 mobility needs of all Oklahomans are met in a safe, affordable,
13 reliable, consistent and coordinated fashion.

14 B. The Office of Mobility and Public Transit shall promulgate
15 rules and procedures to:

16 1. Fund and implement innovative pilot programs including, but
17 not limited to, microtransit and autonomous vehicles in the
18 following systems:

- 19 a. EMBARK,
- 20 b. Tulsa Transit,
- 21 c. Little Dixie Transit, and
- 22 d. other transit systems as determined by ODOT;

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1 2. Fund and implement expansion of the current Veterans' Ride
2 Connect call center at Pelivan Transit to create a "one call/one
3 click" statewide system for all citizens; and

4 3. Fund the development of the Oklahoma Public Transit Policy
5 Plan. The plan will be developed jointly by the Department of
6 Transportation and the Oklahoma Transit Association.

7 a. A copy of the plan shall be submitted to the Governor,
8 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
9 President Pro Tempore of the Senate by July 1, 2020.

10 b. The plan shall:

11 (1) be all-inclusive of the public transit systems in
12 the state,

13 (2) reflect the results of the 2018 Oklahoma Transit
14 Needs Assessment conducted by the Small Urban and
15 Rural Transit Center,

16 (3) include all stakeholder input,

17 (4) provide for future collaboration and coordination
18 of an effective network of public transit systems
19 across the state, and

20 (5) provide for future collaboration and coordination
21 among all state agencies with an interest in
22 public transit including, but not limited to,
23 the:

24 (a) Oklahoma Department of Commerce,

- (b) Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services,
- (c) Oklahoma Department of Human Services,
- (d) Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services,
- (e) Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs,
- (f) Oklahoma Office of Disability Concerns,
- (g) Oklahoma Health Care Authority,
- (h) Oklahoma Employment Security Commission,
- (i) Oklahoma State Department of Education,
- (j) Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, and
- (k) Oklahoma Department of Labor.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 323 of Title 69, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Transit Division within the Department of Transportation, including oversight and management of Federal Transit Administration grants and resources and the State Management Plan, is transferred into the Office of Mobility and Public Transit. The Director of the Department of Transportation shall assume all executive-level responsibilities for the Office of Mobility and Public Transit and shall function as and possess the powers of the director for the Office of Mobility and Public Transit. For the

1 purposes of this section, the term "transferring agency" shall mean
2 the Transit Division within the Department of Transportation,
3 including oversight and management of Federal Transit Administration
4 grants and resources and the State Management Plan. Any funds
5 appropriated to, in the possession of or allocated to the
6 transferring agency shall be deemed to be funds of the Office of
7 Mobility and Public Transit.

8 B. Upon request of the Director of the Department of
9 Transportation, the personnel of the transferring agency shall
10 deliver to the Office of Mobility and Public Transit all books,
11 papers, records and property.

12 C. All functions, powers, duties and obligations previously
13 assigned to the transferring agency are hereby transferred to the
14 Office of Mobility and Public Transit.

15 D. All rules, regulations, acts, orders, contracts,
16 determinations and decisions of the transferring agency pertaining
17 to the functions and powers herein transferred and assigned to the
18 Office of Mobility and Public Transit in force at the time of such
19 transfer, assignment, assumption or devolution, shall continue in
20 force and effect as rules, regulations, acts, orders, contracts,
21 determinations and decisions of the Office of Mobility and Public
22 Transit until duly modified or abrogated by the appropriate body or
23 until otherwise provided by law.

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

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