1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)
4	HOUSE BILL 1891 By: Cantrell of the House
5	and
6	Stewart of the Senate
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9	AS INTRODUCED
10	[ environmental crimes - state traffic citations -
11	fines - reward fund- littering complaints -
12	effective date ]
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16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
17	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1206, is
18	amended to read as follows:
19	Section 1206. <u>A.</u> Any person or any officer of any city or town
20	violating any of the provisions of this <del>act</del> <u>section</u> shall, upon
21	conviction, be fined not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor
22	more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or be imprisoned in the
23	county jail for not more than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine
24	and imprisonment.

1	B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of this
2	section, any peace officer of this state or of any political
3	subdivision of this state may issue a state traffic citation to any
4	person committing a violation of Section 1205 of this title. Such
5	state traffic citation shall be in an amount of not less than Two
6	Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars
7	(\$500.00). The fines collected from the payment of such state
8	traffic citations shall not include court costs and shall be divided
9	as follows:
10	1. One-half (1/2) shall be paid into the reward fund created
11	pursuant to Section 1334 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and
12	2. One-half (1/2) shall be paid into the sheriff's service fee
13	account for that county to be used for enforcing the provisions of
14	Section 1205 of this title.
15	SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1761.1, is
16	amended to read as follows:
17	Section 1761.1 A. Any person who deliberately places, throws,
18	drops, dumps, deposits, or discards any garbage, trash, waste,
19	rubbish, refuse, debris, or other deleterious substance on any
20	public property, on any private property of another without consent
21	of the property owner or on his or her own private property in
22	violation of any county or state zoning or public health regulations
23	shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.
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B. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of
subsection A of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less
than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand
Dollars (\$5,000.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for not
more than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

6 C. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of 7 subsection A of this section with any flaming or glowing substance, or any substance which may cause a fire, shall be punished by a fine 8 9 of not less than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) nor more than Five 10 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail 11 for not more than sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and 12 imprisonment. The penalties collected from the payment of the 13 citations shall, after deduction of court costs, be paid to the fire 14 department of the district in which the flaming or glowing substance 15 was discarded. Any person violating the provisions of this 16 subsection shall be liable for all damages caused by the violation. 17 Damages shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction.

D. During a burn ban declared by the Governor, any person convicted of violating the provisions of subsection A of this section with any flaming or glowing substances, or any substance which may cause a fire, shall be punished by a fine of not less than Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one hundred twenty (120) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The penalties collected from the payment of the citations shall, after deduction of court costs, be paid to the fire department of the district in which the flaming or glowing substance was discarded. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be liable for all damages caused by the violation. Damages shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction.

E. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of
subsection A of this section with any item of furniture, or item
that exceeds fifty (50) pounds, shall be punished by a fine of not
less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Six
Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) or by imprisonment in the
county jail for not more than sixty (60) days, or by both such fine
and imprisonment.

14 In addition to the penalty prescribed by subsection B of F. 15 this section, the court shall direct the person to make restitution 16 to the property owner affected; to remove and properly dispose of 17 the garbage, trash, waste, rubbish, refuse, or debris from the 18 property; to pick up, remove, and properly dispose of garbage, 19 trash, waste, rubbish, refuse, debris, and other nonhazardous 20 deleterious substances from public property; or perform community 21 service or any combination of the foregoing which the court, in its 22 discretion, deems appropriate. The dates, times, and locations of 23 such activities shall be scheduled by the sheriff pursuant to the

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order of the court in such a manner as not to interfere with the
 employment or family responsibilities of the person.

G. In addition to the penalty prescribed in subsection B of this section and the restitution prescribed in subsection F of this section, the court may order the defendant to pay into the reward fund as prescribed in Section 1334 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).

The discovery of two or more items which have been dropped, 8 Η. 9 dumped, deposited, discarded, placed, or thrown at one location and 10 which identify an individual person, or which bear a common address 11 or personal information in a form which tends to identify the latest 12 owner of the items, shall create a rebuttable presumption that any 13 competent person residing at such address committed the unlawful 14 The discovery or use of such evidence shall not be sufficient act. 15 to qualify for the reward provided in Section 1334 of Title 22 of 16 the Oklahoma Statutes.

I. Any person may report a violation of this section, if committed in his or her presence, to an officer of the State Highway Patrol, a county sheriff or deputy, a municipal law enforcement officer or any other peace officer in this state. The peace officer shall then conduct an investigation into the allegations, if warranted. If a violation of this section has in fact been committed, and the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe a

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particular person or persons have committed the violation, a report
 shall be filed with the district attorney for prosecution.

J. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection I of this 3 4 section, any peace officer of this state or of any political 5 subdivision of this state may issue a state traffic citation to any person committing a violation of subsection A of this section. 6 Such 7 state traffic citation shall be in an amount of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars 8 9 (\$5,000.00). The penalties collected from the payment of such 10 citations shall not include court costs and shall be divided as follows: 11

12 1. One-half (1/2) shall be paid into the reward fund created 13 pursuant to Section 1334 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes; 14 provided, that if the citation is issued by a peace officer of a 15 county of this state, the funds allocated by this paragraph shall be 16 transferred to the general fund of the county of the law enforcement 17 officer issuing the citation; and

18 2. One-half (1/2) shall be paid into the sheriff's service fee 19 account for that county to be used for enforcing provisions of this 20 section.

K. The amount of bail for littering offenses specified in
Section 1753.3 of this title and for trash dumping offenses
specified in this section shall be the amount of fine specified in
each statute plus costs including any penalty assessment, as well as

costs incurred in Section 1313.3 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma
 Statutes.

3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2021, Section 1334, is 4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 1334. A. The boards of county commissioners of counties and the governing bodies of municipalities may offer and 6 7 pay a reward, from funds set aside for that purpose, in an amount not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of the fine imposed, for the 8 9 arrest and conviction or for evidence leading to the arrest and 10 conviction of any person who violates the provisions of Sections Section 1753.3 or 1761.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes this 11 12 title.

13 The board of county commissioners or the governing body of в. 14 the municipality may shall create and maintain a reward fund in the 15 county or municipal treasury which shall be a revolving fund not 16 subject to fiscal year limitations, from which to pay the rewards 17 provided for in subsection A of this section, and to offset the cost 18 of any special enforcement programs originated by any law 19 enforcement agency responsible for the arrest or prosecution of any 20 person who violates the provisions of Sections Section 1205, 1753.3 21 or 1761.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title. These 22 costs may include, but not be limited to, the posting of signs along 23 the state's highways advising motorists of the fines for littering 24 or illegal dumping.

C. The board of county commissioners may provide for the
 publication, advertisement and countywide distribution to the public
 of information as to the reward program specified by this section.

D. Claims for rewards shall be on forms provided by the county or municipality and shall be submitted to the prosecuting attorney of the county or municipality no later than thirty (30) days after sentencing of the defendant. The prosecuting attorney shall investigate the validity of the claim and make a nonbinding written precommendation to the board of county commissioners or governing body of the municipality.

E. All claims relating to a conviction shall be considered together at the next regular meeting of the board of county commissioners or governing body of the municipality following receipt of the prosecuting attorney's report.

F. In determining the amount of the reward, the board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality shall have sole discretion to honor or deny the claim, but shall consider:

- 18 1. The severity of the offense;
- 19 2. The size of the fine imposed;

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

4. The burden, if any, incurred by the claimant including costto appear at trial; and

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

G. No reward shall be authorized and no debt shall accrue to the county or municipality upon the depletion of the reward fund authorized by this section.

6 H. The reward authorized by this section shall be in lieu of7 any other county or municipal reward.

8 I. Full-time peace officers of this state or of any county or 9 municipality within this state shall not be eligible for the reward 10 provided by this section.

J. All courts assessing and receiving reward funds as required by Sections <u>1205</u>, 1753.3 and 1761.1 of <del>Title 21 of the Oklahoma</del> <del>Statutes</del> <u>this title</u> shall provide appropriate transfer of the reward funds to the proper county or municipal reward fund as prescribed by the provisions of this section.

K. In lieu of a fine, courts may assess payment into the reward
 fund for criminal violations of environmental statutes including,
 but not limited to, Sections 2-5-116, 2-6-206, and 2-10-301 of Title
 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes. Such payment shall not exceed the
 maximum possible criminal fine for such violation.
 L. The identity of an individual who reports a littering

22 <u>complaint to law enforcement shall remain anonymous.</u> Disclosure of

23 information and identities of informants shall be at the discretion

24 of the district attorney and presiding judge.

1	SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.
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3	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated 02/23/2023 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
4	02/23/2023 Do TRSS, AS Amended and coadenoted.
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