

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 1711

 By: Howard and **Rogers** of the
 Senate

6 and

7 Worthen of the House

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10 An Act relating to court proceedings; amending 20
11 O.S. 2021, Section 130, which relates to
12 videoconferencing in district courts; extending
13 authorization for videoconferencing to certain
14 appearances; amending 22 O.S. 2021, Sections 451 and
15 452, which relate to arraignment and personal
16 appearance of defendant; authorizing use of
17 videoconferencing for certain proceedings; making
18 language gender neutral; and providing an effective
19 date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 130, is
24 amended to read as follows:

25 Section 130. The use of videoconferencing technology, or the
26 equivalent thereof, in the district courts is hereby authorized in
27 all stages of civil or criminal proceedings and shall be governed by
28 the Rules for District Courts of Oklahoma. Such authorization
29 includes the use of videoconferencing technology for appearances

1 where the person is in custody in a county different from the county
2 in which the case is filed.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2021, Section 451, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 451. When the indictment or information is filed, the
6 defendant must be arraigned thereon before the court in which it is
7 filed, if triable therein; if not, before the court to which it is
8 removed or transmitted. If the defendant's physical presence is not
9 possible because the defendant is in custody in another county, the
10 arraignment shall take place by videoconference, if available, as
11 authorized by Section 130 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

12 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2021, Section 452, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 452. If the indictment or information is for a felony
15 the defendant must be ~~personally~~ present, either in person or by
16 videoconference, but if for a misdemeanor only, ~~his~~ the personal
17 appearance is unnecessary, and ~~he~~ the defendant may appear upon the
18 arraignment by counsel.

19 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.
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21 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY - CIVIL, dated
22 03/28/2024 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.
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