

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3770

By: Cantrell

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority; amending 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1711, which relates to turnpike tolls; making certain exemption for counties; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1711, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1711. ~~The~~ A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, subject to the provisions hereof, is hereby authorized to fix, revise, charge and collect tolls for the use of each turnpike project and the different parts or sections thereof, except for use by law enforcement officers responsible for enforcing the traffic laws and the general laws of the state and federal governments on turnpikes, who shall be entitled to free use of every such project in the performance of official duties connected with such turnpike project, and to

1 contract with any person, partnership, association or corporation  
2 desiring the use of any part thereof, including the right-of-way  
3 adjoining the paved portion, for placing thereon telephone,  
4 telegraph, electric light or power lines, gas stations, garages,  
5 stores, hotels, restaurants and advertising signs, or for any other  
6 purpose except for tracks for railroad or railway use, and to fix  
7 the terms, conditions, rents and rates of charges for such use.  
8 Such tolls, subject to the other restrictions hereof, shall be so  
9 fixed and adjusted in respect of the aggregate of tolls from the  
10 turnpike project or projects in connection with which the bonds of  
11 any issue shall have been issued as to provide a fund sufficient  
12 with other revenues, if any, to pay (a) the cost of maintaining,  
13 repairing, and operating such turnpike project or projects, and (b)  
14 the principal of and the interest of such bonds as the same shall  
15 become due and payable, and to create reserves for such purposes.  
16 The tolls and all other revenues derived from the turnpike project  
17 or projects in connection with which the bonds of any issue shall  
18 have been issued, except such part thereof as may be necessary to  
19 pay such cost of maintenance, repair, and operation and to provide  
20 such reserves therefor as may be provided for in the resolution  
21 authorizing the issuance of such bonds or in the trust agreement  
22 securing the same shall be set aside at such regular intervals as  
23 may be provided in such resolution or such trust agreement in a  
24 sinking fund which is hereby pledged to, and charged with, the  
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1 payment of (a) the interest upon such bonds as such interest shall  
2 fall due, (b) the principal of such bonds as the same shall fall  
3 due, (c) the necessary charges of paying agents for paying principal  
4 and interest, and (d) the redemption price or the purchase price of  
5 bonds retired by call or purchase as therein provided, which are a  
6 charge against such fund. The use and disposition of monies to the  
7 credit of such sinking fund shall be subject to the provisions of  
8 the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or of such  
9 trust agreement. Except as may otherwise be provided in such  
10 resolution or such trust agreement, such sinking fund shall be a  
11 fund for all such bonds without distinction or priority of one over  
12 another. The monies in the sinking fund, less such reserve as may  
13 be provided in such resolution or trust agreement, if not used  
14 within a reasonable time for the purchase of bonds for cancellation  
15 as above provided, shall be applied to the redemption of bonds at  
16 the redemption price then applicable. Any person who leases, rents,  
17 or acquires control of any gas station, garage, store, hotel, or  
18 restaurant must have been a resident of, or been doing business in,  
19 Oklahoma for the past five (5) years. Notwithstanding anything else  
20 herein contained to the contrary, the Corporation Commission of the  
21 State of Oklahoma shall exercise the jurisdiction now or hereafter  
22 vested in it to regulate and control the operation of motor carriers  
23 of passengers and freight, using or desiring to use any turnpike  
24 project, in the manner and to the extent that it regulates or

1 controls such carriers using the highways of the state. The  
2 Authority shall not discriminate against any group or class or  
3 individual member thereof in fixing the amount of toll, rents, or  
4 charge for the use of the turnpike project.

5 B. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority shall not charge tolls for  
6 the use of any turnpike by the following:

7 1. Law enforcement officers responsible for enforcing the  
8 traffic laws and the general laws of the state and federal  
9 governments on turnpikes who use the turnpike in the performance of  
10 official duties connected with such turnpike project; or

11 2. County vehicles and county employees if traveling on  
12 turnpikes for official county business.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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