

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 3840
Version:	Introduced
Request Number:	9645
Author:	Rep. Pittman
Date:	2/19/2024
Impact:	Dependent on participation

Research Analysis

House Bill 3840, as introduced, establishes the "Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives" (OFBCI). The office is tasked with:

- Promoting relationships and coordination between state government and faith-based and community initiatives;
- Coordinating activities for public support through volunteerism, special projects, and public-private partnerships;
- Presenting ideas and policy options to the Governor for assisting, strengthening, expanding, or replicating successful initiatives;
- Ensuring state government decisions align with the goal of partnering with such initiatives and monitoring their impact;
- Facilitating coordination with and empowerment of faith-based and community organizations; and
- Showcasing successful faith-based and community initiatives.

The measure allows the OFBCI to partner with a nonprofit public benefit corporation to carry out its purposes. The measure requires the nonprofit partner to meet certain conditions, including being incorporated under Oklahoma laws, approved by the IRS as a tax-exempt organization, and eligible to receive and solicit funds from the public.

The measure allows the nonprofit partner to potentially participate in both the Oklahoma retirement system and the health insurance plan, provided it meets certain conditions and requirements. The nonprofit partner is required to submit an annual report, and its operations are subject to examination and audit by the state comptroller.

Prepared By: Matthew Brenchley

Fiscal Analysis

HB 3840 creates the "Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives" (OFBCI) in effort to improve public safety, overcome addiction, strengthen families, and overcome poverty within communities. The Office must partner with a nonprofit public benefit corporation to fulfill the goals of the initiative, requiring the Governor to appoint the executive director and board members of the nonprofit. For administrative purposes, the Office is considered to be attached to the Oklahoma Finance Division, authorizing any state department, agency, board or commission to provide staff and assistance as requested and be fully cooperative.

The nonprofit is eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Employees Insurance Plan and be a participating employer in the Oklahoma retirement system upon completion of an actuarial study.

As written, the fiscal implications of this measure depend on whether the nonprofit chooses to participate in the Oklahoma health insurance plan and retirement system and the number of employees. Thus, the fiscal impact on the state budget and appropriations are unknown.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.