

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 HOUSE BILL 1970

By: Nollan

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to cities and towns; creating the  
8 Oklahoma Public Safety Protection District Act;  
9 permitting municipalities to initiate creation of a  
10 public safety protection district; directing a  
11 resolution be submitted to the registered voters of  
12 each municipality; conferring powers; describing  
13 territory of the public safety protection district;  
14 providing for management and budgetary oversight;  
15 declaring a public safety protection district to be a  
16 political subdivision; requiring municipality to pay  
17 for election in proportions determined by county;  
18 providing for notice of election; stating question to  
19 be worded on the ballot; describing eligible voters;  
20 providing for conduct of election subject to general  
21 election laws; requiring majority of votes cast to  
22 establish district; directing filing of ordinance or  
23 resolution; providing for levy of annual assessment  
24 on certain property based on assessed value and  
specifying purpose thereof; specifying types of  
property to be assessed; providing exemptions;  
providing for a lien against property if assessment  
is unpaid; stating priority of lien; directing  
specified accounting procedures by certain county  
officers; directing certain costs be paid from the  
proceeds of the district; requiring interest to be  
charged on delinquent assessment; permitting  
dissolution of a public safety protection district  
and describing process therefor; defining term;  
providing for codification; and providing an  
effective date.

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

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-151 of Title 11, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Public  
5 Safety Protection District Act".

6 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-152 of Title 11, unless there  
8 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 The governing body of a municipality may initiate the creation  
10 of a public safety protection district by the adoption of a  
11 resolution calling for the question to be placed before the  
12 registered voters of the municipality of whether to organize a  
13 public safety protection district. The resolution shall be  
14 submitted to the registered voters of the municipality at the next  
15 general election. When a district is organized, it shall have the  
16 powers conferred by the Oklahoma Public Safety Protection District  
17 Act.

18 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-153 of Title 11, unless there  
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. A public safety protection district shall include all  
22 territory located within the municipality.

23 B. Management of the public safety protection district, as well  
24 as management of any employee hired from district funds, shall be

1 vested within the existing administration of the municipal  
2 government that created the district.

3 C. Budgetary oversight shall be vested within the existing  
4 legislative body of the municipal government that created the  
5 district.

6 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-154 of Title 11, unless there  
8 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 A. The costs of an election to establish a public safety  
10 protection district shall be paid by the municipality in the  
11 proportions determined by the county election board conducting the  
12 special election.

13 B. The election to determine whether a district shall be  
14 established, and the notice thereof, shall be conducted in the same  
15 manner as other municipal questions which are submitted to the  
16 electorate of the municipality. The notice shall require the  
17 registered voters of the municipality to cast ballots which contain  
18 the words: "Public Safety Protection District - Yes" and "Public  
19 Safety Protection District - No" or words equivalent thereto. All  
20 residents of the municipality who are qualified electors shall be  
21 qualified to vote on the proposition. The public safety protection  
22 district election shall be conducted in accordance with the general  
23 election laws of the state, and the regular election officials shall  
24 be in charge at the usual polling place of each regular precinct, or

1 part of a precinct, which shall include lands within the boundaries  
2 of the municipality.

3 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-155 of Title 11, unless there  
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 If the certified election results show that a sixty percent  
7 (60%) majority of all the votes cast are "Public Safety Protection  
8 District - Yes", the governing body of the municipality shall, by  
9 adoption of an ordinance or resolution or both an ordinance and  
10 resolution, declare the public safety protection district  
11 established. Any ordinances or resolutions establishing a public  
12 safety protection district shall be filed in the office of the  
13 county clerk in the county.

14 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-156 of Title 11, unless there  
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. There shall be levied an annual assessment no greater than  
18 five (5) mills on the dollar of assessed value of the types of  
19 property in the district as provided in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of  
20 subsection A of Section 2803 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes,  
21 the proceeds of which shall be used for the operation and  
22 maintenance of the public safety protection district, including  
23 expenses related to any of the following, or combination of the  
24 following purposes:

- 1 1. Purchasing and maintaining public safety equipment;
- 2 2. Purchasing and maintaining public safety vehicles;
- 3 3. Payment of salaries and benefits of the municipal employees
- 4 who provide law enforcement or fire protection public safety
- 5 services or both law enforcement and fire protection public safety
- 6 services within the district;
- 7 4. Payment of salaries and benefits of the municipal employees
- 8 who provide emergency medical services; or
- 9 5. Payment for emergency medical services provided by the
- 10 municipality.

11 Such proceeds may also be used for payment of any costs related  
12 to fire and police operations. Such assessment shall only be levied  
13 on the types of property located in the district as provided in  
14 paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of subsection A of Section 2803 of Title 68 of  
15 the Oklahoma Statutes.

16 B. The annual assessment provided in subsection A of this  
17 section shall not apply to real property zoned for agricultural or  
18 industrial land use, livestock employed in support of the family,  
19 personal property owned by agricultural business entities and public  
20 service corporations as defined by Section 2808 of Title 68 of the  
21 Oklahoma Statutes.

22 SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-157 of Title 11, unless there  
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 Every assessment levied under the authority of the Oklahoma  
2 Public Safety Protection District Act shall be a lien against the  
3 tract of land on which it has been levied, until paid, and the lien  
4 shall be coequal with the lien of ad valorem and other taxes,  
5 including special assessments, and prior and superior to all other  
6 liens, and the assessment shall draw interest and shall be collected  
7 in the same manner as ad valorem taxes.

8 SECTION 8. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-158 of Title 11, unless there  
10 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 The county assessor shall compute and enter in respective  
12 columns of the tax rolls the respective sums in dollars and cents to  
13 be paid on each piece of property therein enumerated. The county  
14 clerk shall certify to the county treasurer in the county where the  
15 district or any part thereof is located the amount of assessment in  
16 each fund levied upon each tract. The county treasurer shall enter  
17 the amount of each in separate columns of the tax list of the  
18 county. The assessments shall be collected by the county treasurer  
19 at the same time and in the same manner as all other taxes are  
20 collected in this state. Costs associated with the collection of  
21 the assessments incurred by the county treasurer shall be paid from  
22 the proceeds of the district. If any assessment becomes delinquent,  
23 it shall draw interest as a penalty after delinquency at the rate of  
24 eighteen percent (18%) per annum. All assessments and penalties

1 collected or received by the county treasurer pursuant to the  
2 Oklahoma Public Safety Protection District Act shall be paid to the  
3 municipal treasurers for the benefit of the public safety protection  
4 district.

5 SECTION 9. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
6 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-159 of Title 11, unless there  
7 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

8 A public safety protection district may be dissolved by a  
9 majority vote of the registered voters at an election called for  
10 that purpose by the governing body of the municipality.

11 SECTION 10. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 29-160 of Title 11, unless there  
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 As used in the Oklahoma Public Safety Protection District Act,  
15 "public safety protection" means any of, or combinations of, the  
16 following operations:

- 17 1. Law enforcement;
- 18 2. Fire public safety protections; or
- 19 3. Emergency medical services provided by the municipality.

20 SECTION 11. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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