

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 64

By: Gollihare

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to turnpikes; amending 69 O.S. 2021, Section 1711, which relates to tolls for turnpikes; exempting veterans from certain tolls; updating statutory language; requiring promulgation of rules; 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. A. 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~~ the following persons who shall be entitled to free use of every such project:

1. Veterans:

a. as defined in Section 2 of Title 72 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

b. having a disability of one hundred percent (100%), and

1           c. driving a privately owned, noncommercial vehicle owned  
2                           in whole or in part by the veteran; and

3           2. Law enforcement officers responsible for enforcing the  
4 traffic laws and the general laws of the state and federal  
5 governments on turnpikes, ~~who shall be entitled to free use of every~~  
6 ~~such project~~ in the performance of official duties connected with  
7 such ~~turnpike project, and.~~

8           B. The Authority, subject to the provisions of this section, is  
9 authorized to contract with any person, partnership, association or  
10 corporation desiring the use of any part thereof, including the  
11 right-of-way adjoining the paved portion, for placing thereon  
12 telephone, telegraph, electric light or power lines, gas stations,  
13 garages, stores, hotels, restaurants and advertising signs, or for  
14 any other purpose except for tracks for railroad or railway use, and  
15 to fix the terms, conditions, rents and rates of charges for such  
16 use.

17           C. Such tolls, subject to the other restrictions hereof, shall  
18 be so fixed and adjusted in respect of the aggregate of tolls from  
19 the turnpike project or projects in connection with which the bonds  
20 of any issue shall have been issued as to provide a fund sufficient  
21 with other revenues, if any, to pay ~~(a)~~ the cost of maintaining,  
22 repairing, and operating such turnpike project or projects, and ~~(b)~~  
23 the principal of and the interest of such bonds as the same shall  
24 become due and payable, and to create reserves for such purposes.

1 The tolls and all other revenues derived from the turnpike project  
2 or projects in connection with which the bonds of any issue shall  
3 have been issued, except such part thereof as may be necessary to  
4 pay such cost of maintenance, repair, and operation and to provide  
5 such reserves therefor as may be provided for in the resolution  
6 authorizing the issuance of such bonds or in the trust agreement  
7 securing the same shall be set aside at such regular intervals as  
8 may be provided in such resolution or such trust agreement in a  
9 sinking fund which is hereby pledged to, and charged with, the  
10 payment of ~~(a)~~ the interest upon such bonds as such interest shall  
11 fall due, ~~(b)~~ the principal of such bonds as the same shall fall  
12 due, ~~(c)~~ the necessary charges of paying agents for paying principal  
13 and interest, and ~~(d)~~ the redemption price or the purchase price of  
14 bonds retired by call or purchase as therein provided, which are a  
15 charge against such fund. The use and disposition of monies to the  
16 credit of such sinking fund shall be subject to the provisions of  
17 the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or of such  
18 trust agreement. Except as may otherwise be provided in such  
19 resolution or such trust agreement, such sinking fund shall be a  
20 fund for all such bonds without distinction or priority of one over  
21 another. The monies in the sinking fund, less such reserve as may  
22 be provided in such resolution or trust agreement, if not used  
23 within a reasonable time for the purchase of bonds for cancellation  
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1 as above provided, shall be applied to the redemption of bonds at  
2 the redemption price then applicable.

3 D. Any person who leases, rents, or acquires control of any gas  
4 station, garage, store, hotel, or restaurant must have been a  
5 resident of, or been doing business in, Oklahoma for the past five  
6 (5) years.

7 E. Notwithstanding anything else herein contained to the  
8 contrary, the Corporation Commission ~~of the State of Oklahoma~~ shall  
9 exercise the jurisdiction now or hereafter vested in it to regulate  
10 and control the operation of motor carriers of passengers and  
11 freight, using or desiring to use any turnpike project, in the  
12 manner and to the extent that it regulates or controls such carriers  
13 using the highways of the state.

14 F. The Authority shall not discriminate against any group or  
15 class or individual member thereof in fixing the amount of toll,  
16 rents, or charge for the use of the turnpike project.

17 G. The Authority shall promulgate any rules necessary to  
18 implement the provisions of this section.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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