

# Senate Journal

## First Regular Session of the Fifty-fifth Legislature of the State of Oklahoma

Fortieth Legislative Day, Monday, April 13, 2015

The Senate was called to order by Senator Stanislawski.

Roll Call:

Present: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.—46.

Excused: Treat.—1.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

Senator Stanislawski declared a quorum present.

The prayer was offered by Mike Butler, Crosspointe Church, Noble, the guest of Senator Standridge.

### REPORT OF ENGROSSED AND ENROLLED MEASURES

**SBs 150 and 808 and SJR 31** were each correctly enrolled and after fourth reading, properly signed and ordered transmitted to the Honorable House for signature of the Speaker.

**SRs 21 and 24** were each correctly enrolled, properly signed and ordered transmitted to the Secretary of State.

**FIRST READING**

The following was introduced and read the first time:

**SCR 16** – By Justice of the Senate and Osborn of the House.

A Concurrent Resolution designating April 14, 2015, as "Dust Bowl Remembrance Day"; applauding the heroic work of the Oklahoma Dust Bowl survivors' farm and ranch families; encouraging the continued adoption of improved conservation practices; and directing distribution.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1150** by Grau and Sherrer of the House and Griffin and Pittman of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Griffin moved that **HB 1150** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1150** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill and emergency, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson and Yen.--42.

Excused: Anderson, Bass, Jolley, Treat and Wyrick.--5.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill and emergency passed.

**HB 1150** was referred for engrossment.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1399** by Murphey and Faught of the House and Griffin of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Griffin moved that **HB 1399** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1399** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Excused: Anderson, Bass, Jolley and Treat.--4.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1399** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 2179** by Hickman and Perryman of the House and Griffin of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Griffin moved that **HB 2179** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 2179** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp,

Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Excused: Anderson, Bass, Jolley and Treat.--4.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 2179** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

### **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1515** by Cooksey et al of the House and Sharp et al of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Sharp moved that **HB 1515** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

### **THIRD READING**

**HB 1515** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Thompson and Wyrick.--36.

Nay: Brecheen, Crain, Dahm, Halligan, Loveless, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes and Yen.--9.

Excused: Anderson and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1515** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1751** by Newell of the House and Quinn and Griffin of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Quinn moved that **HB 1751** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1751** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--45.

Excused: Anderson and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1751** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 2131** by Cleveland of the House and Quinn of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Quinn moved to amend **HB 2131**, Page 1, by restoring the title, which amendment was declared adopted.

The above amendment restores **HB 2131** to the engrossed version of the bill.

Senator Quinn moved that **HB 2131** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 2131** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--45.

Excused: Anderson and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 2131** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST  
DIRECT TO CALENDAR**

Senator Justice asked unanimous consent to refer **SCR 16** direct to the Calendar for consideration, which was the order.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**SCR 16** by Justice of the Senate was called up for consideration.

All other members of the Senate asked to coauthor **SCR 16**, which was the order.

**SCR 16** was adopted upon motion of Senator Justice and referred for engrossment.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1103** by Biggs et al of the House and Justice of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Justice moved that **HB 1103** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1103** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--45.

Excused: Anderson and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1103** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1408** by Billy et al of the House and Justice and Pittman of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Justice moved that **HB 1408** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1408** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Nay: Brown and Mazzei.--2.

Excused: Marlatt and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1408** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

### **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1687** by Denney and Perryman of the House and Halligan of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Halligan moved that **HB 1687** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

### **THIRD READING**

**HB 1687** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--45.

Excused: Marlatt and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1687** was referred for engrossment.

### **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1283** by Cockroft of the House and Jolley of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Jolley moved that **HB 1283** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.



**THIRD READING**

**HB 1283** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--44.

Excused: Bass, Marlatt and Treat.--3.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1283** was referred for engrossment.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1860** by Wright of the House and Schulz of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Schulz moved that **HB 1860** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1860** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--44.

Excused: Bass, Marlatt and Treat.--3.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1860** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

### **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 2185** by Hickman of the House and Schulz of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Schulz moved that **HB 2185** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

### **THIRD READING**

**HB 2185** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--44.

Excused: Bass, Marlatt and Treat.--3.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 2185** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

### **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1577** by Williams of the House and Anderson of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Anderson moved that **HB 1577** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

### **THIRD READING**

**HB 1577** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Nay: Holt and Shortey.--2.

Excused: Bass and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1577** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

## **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1904** by Johnson of the House and Barrington of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Barrington moved to amend **HB 1904**, Page 23, Line 2, by inserting, after the word “vehicle” and before the period “.”, the following: “; and 3. Any individual or entity whose name is being added”; and, Page 23, Line 6, by deleting after the number “1” and before the second word “of” the words “and 2” and inserting the words “, 2 and 3”, which amendment was declared adopted.

Senator Barrington moved to amend **HB 1904**, Page 1, by restoring the title.

Senator Barrington asked that **HB 1904** be laid over for this legislative day, pending consideration of his amendment, which was the order.

**HB 1904** remains on General Order.

## **GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 2184** by Hickman of the House and Barrington of the Senate was called up for consideration.

Senator Barrington moved that **HB 2184** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 2184** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Anderson, Barrington, Boggs, Brinkley, Brooks, Crain, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Paddack, Pittman, Schulz, Sharp, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski and Yen.--26.

Nay: Allen, Bice, Bingman, Brecheen, Brown, Dahm, David, Jech, Mazzei, Newberry, Quinn, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sykes, Thompson and Wyrick.--19.

Excused: Bass and Treat.--2.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 2184** was referred for engrossment.

**PENDING CONSIDERATION OF HAS**

**HAs** to **SB 563** were concurred in upon motion of Senator Smalley.

**SB 563**, as amended by the Honorable House, was read at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Loveless, Marlatt, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Stanislawski, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--29.

Nay: Allen, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Dahm, David, Fields, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Mazzei, Newberry, Shaw, Standridge and Sykes.--15.

Excused: Bass, Paddack and Treat.--3.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

House amendments were properly signed and the above-numbered bill was referred for enrollment.

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HB 1003** by McDaniel (Randy) of the House and Barrington of the Senate, previously considered on Page 847, was called up for further consideration.

Senator Barrington moved that **HB 1003** be advanced, which motion was declared adopted.

**THIRD READING**

**HB 1003** was read for the third time at length.

On the question of passage of the bill, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Nay: Allen.--1.

Excused: Bass, Paddock and Treat.--3.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

The bill passed.

**HB 1003** was properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

**EXECUTIVE NOMINATION**

The following executive nomination has been approved by the committee named:

Stone, C. Renzi, Oklahoma City, to the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, to serve a seven-year term ending March 21, 2022, succeeding Tom Clark. (Education Committee) Motion to confirm made by Senator David Holt.

Motion to confirm the above-named executive nomination was declared adopted upon roll call as follows:

Aye: Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bice, Bingman, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Griffin, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, Newberry, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp,

Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Wyrick and Yen.--43.

Excused: Bass, Boggs, Paddack and Treat.--4.

Vacancy: District 11.—1.

#### **PENDING CONSIDERATION OF HAS**

**HAs** to **SB 711** were rejected upon motion of Senator Schulz, conference requested, and Senate conferees to be named later.

#### **MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE**

Advising fourth reading of and transmitting for signature Enrolled **HBs 1072, 1375, 1396, 1879, 1969, 1986** and **2130**.

The above-numbered enrolled measures were, after fourth reading, properly signed and ordered returned to the Honorable House.

Advising fourth reading of and returning Enrolled **SBs 150** and **808** and **SJR 31**.

**SBs 150** and **808** were referred to the Governor and **SJR 31** was referred to the Secretary of State.

Advising passage of and returning the following Engrossed bills:

**SB 95** - coauthored by Wood and Hoskin of the House

**SB 131**

**SB 135**

**SB 358**

**SB 382**

**SB 477** - coauthored by Pittman of the Senate

**SB 486**

**SB 499** - remove Representative Echols as principal House author and substitute with Representative McBride, add as coauthor Representative Echols

**SB 511**

**SB 542** - coauthored by Fourkiller of the House

**SB 721**

**SB 745**

The above-numbered measures were referred for enrollment.

## **EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

The following executive nominations were read and referred to the committee indicated:

Beasley, Stewart R., Jr., Edmond, as a member of the Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services - Health and Human Services

Benson, Allen, Ardmore, as a member of the Board of Regents of Murray State College - Education

Brownlee, Stanley, Enid, as a member of the Board of Regents of the Northern Oklahoma College - Education

Day, Bruce, Nichols Hills, as a member of the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability - Education

Forrest, Joseph, Edmond, as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission - Judiciary

Heidlage, Robert, Jr., Claremore, as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission - Judiciary

Jordan, Cynthia "Cyd", Ardmore, as a member of the Board of Trustees for the University Center of Southern Oklahoma - Education

Keating, Daniel G., Tulsa, as a member of the State Board of Education - Education

Liotta, Mark, Sapulpa, as a member of the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission - Judiciary

McQuiston, Raymond, Ada, as a member of the Board of Regents of Seminole State College - Education

Nicholson, Homer L., Ponca City, as a member of the Environmental Quality Board - Energy

Parks, Johnnie, Broken Arrow, as a member of the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability - Education

Patel, Paresh, Tulsa, as a member of the Board of Trustees for Oklahoma State University-Tulsa - Education

Robin, Annabeth, Bartlesville, as a member of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries Board - General Government

Sanner, James "Mike", Jones, as a member of the Oklahoma Accountancy Board -  
Business and Commerce

Shellenberger, Kent, Bethany, as a member of the Commission for Educational Quality  
and Accountability - Education

Stinson, Kevin, Ardmore, as a member of the Board of Trustees for the University  
Center of Southern Oklahoma - Education

Veazey, Sarah, Ardmore, as a member of the Board of Trustees for the University  
Center of Southern Oklahoma - Education

Vernnon, Glen F., Pryor, as a member of the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission -  
Business and Commerce

Warner, Clarence, Norman, as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement  
Commission – Judiciary

Senator Schulz moved that when the clerk's desk is clear, the Senate stand adjourned to  
convene Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., which motion prevailed.

#### **CHANGE IN AUTHORS/COAUTHORS**

The following measures were authored/coauthored:

**HB 1430** - Remove as author Senator Griffin; authored by Brinkley

**HB 1566** - Coauthored by Stanislawski

**HB 2154** - Coauthored by Yen, Newberry

**HJR 1012** - Coauthored by Cockroft

#### **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

Advising her approval April 10, 2015, of Enrolled **SBs 7, 23, 38, 126, 152, 195, 250, 405, 420, 487, 574, 575, 638, 763** and **831** and veto of **SB 479**.

The veto message reads as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE  
FIRST SESSION OF THE  
FIFTY FIFTH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE



ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 479:

This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have VETOED Senate Bill 479.

Senate Bill 479 (Bill) establishes a process through which the Legislature may formally request—in the form of a legislative resolution—information from executive agencies regarding the “legal authority for a specific facet of operations of the agency.” The agency head must respond to the resolution within ten (10) days of receipt, or could face removal from his or her position.

This Bill is unnecessary, and lacks the spirit of collaboration that must exist if government is to act efficiently and effectively. It seeks to replace more informal, but highly effective, oversight, with an unnecessarily complicated administrative process.

First, this Bill is unnecessary because it merely restates what is already a clear and inviolable tenet of constitutional law: namely, agencies have only those powers that have been delegated to them by the Oklahoma Constitution and Statutes. Accordingly, each and every official act of an agency must already be encompassed within and supported by the legal authority granted it by the Legislature or the Constitution.

Second, the Bill imposes a formal and bureaucratic process to address perceived agency overreach, where a simple, efficient, and time-tested solution already exists. Certainly, agency heads are expected to respond thoroughly and rapidly to all legislative inquiries, regardless of whether those inquiries are verbal, written, or stated in a resolution; to do otherwise would be to invite disciplinary action from either the executive branch or the Legislature, which body has (as is described above) significant control over agencies via rulemaking and legislation.

We do not need another redundant law that creates more bureaucracy. Oklahoma expects and deserves a government that works together cooperatively and without unnecessary red tape to advance the quality of life and interests of its people.

By the Governor of the State of Oklahoma  
/s/ Mary Fallin

Advising her approval April 13, 2015, of Enrolled **SBs 42, 132, 137, 153, 249, 293** and **637**.

Pursuant to the Schulz motion, the Senate adjourned at 3:20 p.m. to meet Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.