



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Friday, February 26, 1999

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

From: Bryce Fair & Carolyn McCoy

Highlights This Week:

Action Moves to Legislative Floors: Both houses of the Legislature moved through long agendas each day this week. A complete listing of action on bills this week is contained further in the report. The following bills were among those approved:

- SB 23 - prohibiting colleges from entering agreements to merchandise credit cards (passed 26-21)
- SB 62 - graduate student fellowships (passed 44-0)
- SB 196 - amendments to the Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG) program (passed 44-3)
- SB 346 - shell bill on tuition (passed 43-0)
- SB 347 - shell bill on special student fees (passed 46-0)
- SB 540 - forgivable loans & financial incentives for teacher shortage areas (passed 43-0)
- SB 572 - faculty research grants (passed 44-0)
- HB 1019 - Teacher Preparation Commission; sunset provision for 2003 (passed 98-1)
- HB 1317 - inherited property held by colleges (passed 100-0)
- HB 1420 - obscene material (passed 97-2)

Campus Security Bill Killed, Then Revived: SB 517 (by Sen. Jim Maddox, D – Lawton), which sought to expand the authority of campus security officials to remove individuals for college grounds, was defeated in the Senate on Wednesday by a vote of 20 yes, 28 no. However, the bill's author lodged a motion at that time to allow the Senate to reconsider the failing vote within three days. The next day, Thursday, Sen. Maddox asked for a vote on his reconsideration motion, which passed on a 43-3 vote. The approval of the motion is not a vote on the bill itself, but will now let the Senate vote on the bill a second time. It also allows the author to make any desired changes in the bill before a second vote is taken.

Bills Deleted From Tracking List: We have deleted all bills that were not passed out of committee by last week's February 18 deadline. Overall, more than 150 bills have been removed. These bills are dead for the 1999 session, but will remain in committee and could be considered in the 2000 session. A com-

plete list of the removed bills is provided further below in the section entitled “Bills Deleted from the List”.

Text of Bills: To review a text of any bill, go to: <http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/docs/billtext.html>.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Note: for the most current updates on legislative committee meetings go to:
House of Representatives homepage: <http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/house/meetings.htm>
Senate homepage at: <http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/senate/meetingnotices.html>.

- March 2, 1999; Tuesday
Higher Education Day at the State Capitol
Agenda: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Registration in the 4th Floor Rotunda
9:30-11:00 a.m. General Session in the House of Representatives Chamber
11:00 a.m. Visit Legislators

- March 12, 1999; Friday
Meeting of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Ardmore, Oklahoma

- April 19, 1999; Monday
Research Day at the State Capitol

Upcoming Legislative Deadlines:

March 11, Thursday Bills from Floor of House of Origin
 March 25, Thursday Bills from Committee of Opposite House
 April 15, Thursday Bills from Floor of Opposite House
 April 22, Thursday Deadline for Requesting Joint Conference Committee
 May 28, Friday Sine Die Adjournment

Actions on Bills This Week:

SENATE ACTIONS
 Bills Passed on Senate Floor:
 SB 23 - Credit cards
 SB 38 - Surplus equipment
 SB 63 - Graduate study grants

SB 66 - Teacher Preparation
SB 86 - Embalmers/funeral directors education
SB 89 - Education Oversight Board
SB 177 - Flexible benefits
SB 178 - Deferred savings
SB 180 - Program budgeting
SB 182 - Capitol improvements
SB 183 - Purchasing
SB 196 - OTAG
SB 224 - Student loans
SB 346 - Tuition/fees
SB 347 - Tuition/fees
SB 354 - Health insurance authority
SB 355 - Health insurance authority
SB 366 - Technology Advisory Board
SB 368 - Physician education requirements
SB 372 - College Savings Plan
SB 373 - Health insurance
SB 465 - License plates
SB 508 - Purchasing
SB 540 - Student loans
SB 552 - Technology transfer
SB 572 - Faculty research grants
SB 589 - Trademark anti-counterfeiting
SB 609 - Health insurance enrollment
SB 610 - Retirement benefit increase
SB 669 - Punitive damages
SB 714 - School of Science and Mathematics
SB 715 - Teacher Preparation
SB 750 - Audits of grant funds
SJR 19 - Ad valorem

HOUSE ACTIONS

Bills Passed on House Floor:

HB 1002 - Tobacco settlement - retirement fund
HB 1019 - Teacher Preparation sunset date
HB 1063 - Endowment fund
HB 1136 - Administrative Procedures
HB 1140 - Employee information
HB 1203 - Dangerous substances
HB 1317 - Taxes - inherited property
HB 1351 - Dental faculty
HB 1368 - Genetic research nondisclosure
HB 1377 - Job training
HB 1420 - Obscene material
HB 1425 - Workers' Compensation
HB 1439 - STARS
HB 1469 - Income tax - technology transfer
HB 1482 - College Savings Plan

HB 1566 - Appropriations - State Regents
HB 1592 - Northeastern State University - Literacy Center
HB 1599 - School testing
HB 1622 - Long-range plans
HB 1650 - School technology
HB 1745 - Health insurance
HB 1809 - Chiropractic education
HB 1826 - Health insurance external review

Bills Added to the List:

SB 439 - Health insurance
SJR 8 - Ad valorem - technology funds
SJR 21 - Dr. William Bright
SJR 24 - Sales tax exemptions
SJR 25 - Space technology
SR 2 - Lynn Peacher, Teacher of the Year
HB 1368 - Genetic Research
HB 1651 - Internet privacy

Bills Deleted from the List:

SB 12 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 24 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 27 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 32 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 39 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 49 - Income tax credit - tuition/fees for teachers
SB 103 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 109 - Income tax exemption - College Savings
SB 197 - OHLAP
SB 218 - Workers' Compensation
SB 219 - Workers' Compensation
SB 221 - Workers' Compensation
SB 223 - Curriculum
SB 254 - Workforce investment
SB 256 - Computer malfunction - liability
SB 257 - Advanced placement
SB 258 - Teacher Preparation
SB 260 - Workers' Compensation
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SB 276 - Health insurance
SB 277 - Health insurance
SB 279 - Health insurance
SB 303 - Retirement
SB 326 - Livestock activities liability
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SB 399 - University Hospitals
SB 403 - Health insurance
SB 408 - Livestock activities liability
SB 435 - Health insurance
SB 437 - Health insurance
SB 468 - Charter schools
SB 474 - Remedial courses
SB 484 - Raffles
SB 487 - Workers' Compensation
SB 498 - Livestock activities liability
SB 512 - Workers' Compensation
SB 515 - Raffles
SB 516 - Job training
SB 534 - Livestock activities liability
SB 554 - University Hospitals
SB 555 - Raffles
SB 584 - Drug/alcohol testing
SB 607 - Minority Teacher Recruitment
SB 611 - Health insurance
SB 624 - Raffles
SB 628 - Teacher bonuses
SB 646 - Workers' Compensation
SB 650 - Computer malfunction
SB 651 - Future Teachers
SB 667 - Curricular standards/remediation
SB 675 - Health insurance
SB 696 - Tuition/fees
SB 703 - OSU/Tulsa
SB 704 - Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP)
SB 722 - Tuition/fees
SB 736 - OCAST
SB 757 - Workers' Compensation
SB 788 - Special Needs Scholarship
SJR 17 - Ad valorem/technology
HB 1006 - Retirement
HB 1007 - Gifts to government officers
HB 1015 - Employment of former board members
HB 1036 - Tobacco settlement/retirement
HB 1040 - Tobacco settlement/retirement
HB 1046 - Charter schools
HB 1056 - Raffles
HB 1058 - Tax credit/agriculture producers
HB 1072 - Health insurance/mental health
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HB 1096 - Health insurance

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HB 1288 - Public school definition
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HB 1338 - Health insurance - infertility
HB 1357 - Drug/alcohol testing
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HB 1818 - Workers' Compensation
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HB 1823 - Wildlife land use by students
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HJR 1001 - Appropriations to education first
HJR 1002 - Appropriations to education first

If you need copies of any of the bills, go to the website: <http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/docs/billtext.html>, or contact Carolyn McCoy at (405) 524-9165 [e-mail: cmccoy@osrhe.edu].

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BILLS OF INTEREST TO HIGHER EDUCATION

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Forty-Seventh Legislature – First Session 1999
Status Reported as of February 25, 1999

SENATE BILLS

SB 2 (Taylor/Benson) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/MENTAL ILLNESS.** Requires group health insurance and health benefit plans to include coverage for treatment of adults, adolescents and children with severe mental illness; permits insurers to offer such benefits through a managed care system; requires that such benefits be equal to treatment of and subject to the same preauthorization and utilization review mechanisms as all other physical diseases and disorders; provides an exemption for policies providing coverage for a specified disease or other limited benefit coverage and for groups with 50 or fewer employees; defines "severe mental illness" as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness), major depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and schizoaffective disorder; makes such requirement inapplicable to an agreement, contract or policy in which such coverage will result in an increase of more than 3 percent in premium cost. (36 §§ 6060.10, 6060.11)

2/4/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 7 (Williams/Boyd) - **ROGERS UNIVERSITY.** Changes the name of Oklahoma State University/Tulsa to Oklahoma State University-Tulsa and also includes substantive amendments pertaining to the transfer of assets from the Rogers University/Tulsa foundation; provides that any curricula offered by OU and OSU at the undergraduate level may be offered at the OU/OSU Graduate Center at Tulsa. (70 §§ 4662/4668, 4670/4671, 4673)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 10 (Ford/Adair) - **BOARD EMPLOYEES.** Permits a state board or commission to employ a state employee who is an ex officio member of that board or commission and who is required by law to be a member of that entity. (74 § 4257)

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/16/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (46-0)

2/18/99 Second reading - Referred to House Rules Committee

SB 19 (Maddox/Paulk) - **ANSWERING MACHINES/VOICE MAIL.** Requires that the primary telephone number at state agencies be answered by an agency employee during normal business hours; prohibits the use of an answering device on the primary telephone designated to receive calls from the public during normal business hours or forwarded to a telephone that is not answered by an employee; provides an exception to allow agencies to use answering devices to answer calls during other than normal business hours and calls to other numbers the agency maintains. (74 § 3306)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 22 (Horner/Staggs) - **OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM FOR TEACHER PREPARATION.** Authorizes the State Regents to establish and maintain an Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program for Teacher Preparation, an incentive scholarship program to encourage

the preparation of teachers, including minority teachers, in critical shortage area for the public schools at one or more of the state's public or private higher education institutions; requires that priority consideration be given to prospective teachers from under-represented minority groups and prospective teachers who meet the same requirements as for the existing Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP); states legislative intent that the Regents create a committee comprising educators, teacher educators from the participating institutions, other professionals from critical shortage area fields and representatives of public schools and the Department of Education to recommend to the Regents further criteria for selection of participants, procedures for admission, procedures and instruments for assessing the effectiveness of the program and any other criteria or procedures deemed necessary by the Regents; requires the committee to deliver a report on the program to the Legislature by July 1 of each year. (70 § 698.3)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 23 (Milacek/Reese) - **CREDIT CARDS**. Prohibits State System institutions from entering into agreements for merchandising of credit cards through such institution to an enrolled student who is under age 21. (14A § 1-111)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

2/24/99 Bill Amended and Passed - Senate (26-21)

2/24/99 Held on Notice

SB 36 (Herbert/Glover) - **SCHOOL LAND FUNDS**. Requires monthly distribution from permanent school funds, other educational funds and public building funds; requires that the percentage of annual distribution from the trust funds held by the Commissioners of the Land Office be 5 percent of the average of the fiscal-year-end market value for the preceding three fiscal years; requires that the market value of the trust funds be established using the fiscal year and balance of the total trust funds held by the custodial bank. (64 § 51.A)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 37 (Herbert/Glover) - **SCHOOL LAND FUNDS**. Removes restrictions on investment of permanent school funds and other educational funds; removes the prohibition against bond investments prior to an Attorney General's opinion on the legality and validity of such investment. (64 § 51)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 38 (Morgan/Corn) - **SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**. Authorizes state agencies to dispose of obsolete or surplus equipment to entities within the State System. (62 § 120.1)

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 43 (Helton/Kirby) - **POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY**. Designates the third Friday of September of each year as POW/MIA Recognition Day; authorizes the Governor to authorize all state agencies to fly the flag of the National League of Families of American Prisoners of War and Missing in Southeast Asia. (25 § 90.13)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 46 (Herbert/Weaver) - **BONDS**. This is a shell bill relating to program budgeting. The committee substitute adds to the definition of “public body” in the Open Meeting Act and Open Records Act “any entity that directly or indirectly receives proceeds from the sale or issuance of bonds or other forms of public indebtedness pursuant to an agreement with a public body.” (25 § 304; 51 § 124A.3)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 47 (Long/Roach) - **UNEMPLOYMENT**. Pursuant to the Employment Security Act of 1980, extends the reduction in employment taxes through 2001; extends for an additional two years a revision of the term “taxable wages”; sets taxable wages at 50 percent of the state’s average annual wage for the second preceding year; provides that, beginning Jan. 1, 2002, the computation will change to a sliding-scale methodology, dependent upon whether economic conditions warrant shoring up the unemployment trust fund by assessing a “conditional factor”; provides that, when no conditional factor is triggered, taxable wages will be 40 percent of the state average annual wage; modifies the state maximum benefit amount, with the maximum benefit amount being the lesser of 26 times the weekly benefit amount of an individual, 22.5 percent of the state’s average annual wages or 45 percent of the individual’s taxable wages paid during the individual’s base period; modifies confidentiality requirements and penalties that may be levied by the Labor Department. (40 § 1-209)

2/15/99 Title stricken

2/15/99 Senate committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 60 (Herbert/Glover) - **SCHOOL LAND FUNDS**. Changes the nature of funds to be distributed by the Commissioners of the Land Office. (70 §§ 614, 3904)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 62 (Williams/Nations) - **GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**. States legislative intent that \$250,000 be appropriated to the State Regents to provide supplements of \$5,000 each to graduate fellowships offered by Oklahoma colleges and universities targeted to certain areas of excellence under plans approved by the Regents. The committee substitute states legislative intent to appropriate an unspecified amount for 50 supplements.

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 63 (Williams/Wells) - **GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**. Authorizes the State Regents to establish fellowships for doctoral or research studies. The amendment authorizes the State Regents, as funds are available, to establish and maintain fellowships to attract outstanding doctoral and graduate students to Oklahoma’s comprehensive universities for the purpose of enhancing areas of strategic research and strength; requires the State Regents in consultation with the university presidents to determine strategic areas which will attract world class research to Oklahoma. (70 § 698.3)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

2/23/99 Title stricken

2/23/99 Bill Amended and Passed - Senate (44-0)

2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 66 (Williams/Boyd) - **TEACHER PREPARATION/COMPETENCY EXAMS**. Modifies requirements for taking teacher competency examinations to remove language requiring that teacher candidates be eligible following completion of the junior year or after having completed 90 college credit hours; repeals a section relating to certain course requirements. (70 §§ 6-187, 6-128)

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/25/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

SB 86 (Weedn/Hilliard) - **EMBALMERS/FUNERAL DIRECTORS/EDUCATION**. Changes the accreditation entity for approved programs of mortuary science from the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards of the United States to the American Board of Funeral Service Education; specifies qualifications for funeral directors; modifies requirements for reciprocal licensing of embalmers and funeral directors. (59 § 396.3)

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/23/99 Bill Amended and Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Public Health Committee

SB 89 (Williams/Roberts) - **EDUCATION OVERSIGHT BOARD**. Modifies residency requirements for members of the Education Oversight Board to require that at least one appointee member reside in each congressional district. (70 § 3-116)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/25/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

SB 102 (Horner/Stites) - **OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM (OHLAP)**. Modifies eligibility for the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program by allowing financial need to be established during the eighth-, ninth- or tenth-grade year; prohibits allocations from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Trust Fund for students enrolled in a postsecondary vo-tech program or course from exceeding the amount a student would have received for comparable enrollment at a two-year State System institution; requires that a student be eligible for financial assistance under the program if the student's family income does not exceed 225 percent of the federal poverty guidelines but not if the student's family income exceeds 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for a family of four. The committee substitute removes language that required eligible students to maintain a 2.5 cumulative grade point average "irrespective of honor points."(70 §§ 2603/2605)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 108 (Long/Gilbert) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/FREEDOM OF CHOICE**. Expands locations at which services and procedures covered under an accident and health insurance policy may be performed pursuant to the Health Care Freedom of Choice Act to include ambulatory surgical centers; includes such centers in types of facilities for which a provision, exclusion or limitation in an accident and health insurance policy shall be void. (36 §§ 6054, 6056, 6057)

2/18/99 Title stricken

2/18/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 121 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS/OKLAHOMA CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (OCAST)**. Appropriates to the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST); limits the salary of the executive director of OCAST.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/9/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (46-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 123 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS/OKLAHOMA CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (OCAST)**. This is a shell bill that sets budgetary limi-

tations for the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST); limits the executive director's salary.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/9/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (48-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 150 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS/STATE REGENTS/PHYSICIAN MANPOWER TRAINING COMMISSION**. Appropriates to the State Regents and the Physician Manpower Training Commission; limits the salary of the Commission director.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/9/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (48-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 151 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS/STATE REGENTS**. This is a shell bill that appropriates to the State Regents.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/9/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (48-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 152 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS /PHYSICIAN MANPOWER TRAINING COMMISSION**. This is a shell bill that sets budgetary limitations for the Physician Manpower Training Commission.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/9/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (48-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 161 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS/STATE REGENTS/PMTC/OCAST/TEACHER PREP/UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**. This is a general appropriations bill that appropriates to the State Regents, the Physician Manpower Training Commission, the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), and the University Hospitals Authority.

2/2/99 Direct to Calendar

2/2/99 General Order - Senate

SB 166 (Haney/Settle) - **APPROPRIATIONS /PHYSICIAN MANPOWER TRAINING COMMISSION**. This is a shell bill that modifies budgetary limitations of the Physician Manpower Training Commission.

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (48-0)

2/15/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 177 (Haney/Settle) - **FLEXIBLE BENEFITS**. Clarifies language relating to flexible benefit allowance of state employees. (74 § 1370)

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (32-13)

2/24/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 178 (Haney/Settle) - **DEFERRED SAVINGS**. Clarifies language relating to the State Employees Deferred Savings Incentive Plan. (74 § 1707)

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (33-12)

2/24/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 180 (Haney/Settle) - **PROGRAM BUDGETING**. Corrects language relating to program budgeting. (62 § 41.44)

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (32-13)

2/24/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 182 (Haney/Settle) - **CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT**. This is a shell bill relating to the Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority. (73 § 301)

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (35-0)

2/24/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 183 (Haney/Settle) - **PURCHASING**. This is a shell bill relating to the Central Purchasing Act. (74 § 85.2)

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (33-13)

2/24/99 Direct to House Calendar

SB 196 (Williams/Braddock) - **OKLAHOMA TUITION AID GRANT (OTAG)**. Removes language requiring that, in order to receive a tuition aid grant, a student must be enrolled in a minimum of six semester hours; requires the State Regents to determine by rules the annual maximum award amount based on an annual assessment of funds availability; requires that the percentage of aid be based on a need analysis system consistent with federal student financial aid regulations; requires the Regents to set an annual award payment schedule based on a maximum grant of 75 percent of tuition and fees, with grants based on lower percentages of tuition and fees being awarded to students who demonstrate lower financial need. (70 §§ 626.4, 626.7)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (44-3)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Education Committee

SB 222 (Brown/Roach) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES**. Creates the "Unintended Pregnancy and Abortion Reduction Act"; requires health benefit plans that provide for payment of or reimbursement for pregnancy-related services to provide contraceptive services for the subscriber or a dependent who is covered by the policy; prohibits such contracts that provide prescription drug coverage from excluding any prescribed drug or device approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use as a contraceptive drug or device or from imposing a co-payment, co-insurance payment, fee or waiting requirement for such drug or device that is not equally imposed upon all individuals in the same benefit category or coinsurance level receiving benefits for prescription drugs; provides an exemption for contracts that provide coverage for a specified disease or other limited benefit coverage and for groups of 50 or fewer employees. (36 §§ 6060.61, 6060.62)

2/11/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 224 (Williams/Braddock) - **STUDENT LOANS**. Requires licensing agencies to provide to the State Regents information indexed by Social Security number, when requested for use in the default prevention efforts or collection of defaulted student loans guaranteed by the Regents; provides for confidentiality of such information; requires the Oklahoma Bar Association, if it receives notice that a licensed attorney is in default, to begin proceedings by which the attorney may be suspended pursuant to Rules Governing Disciplinary Proceedings. (70 §§ 623, 623.1)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Education Committee

SB 244 (Long/Thornbrugh) - **ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE COURSES**. Increases the maximum fee for attending alcohol and drug substance abuse courses from \$85 to \$125 for a first offense and from \$250 to \$375 for a second or subsequent offense; limits enrollment in a given class to 20 students. (43A § 3-453)
2/11/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 272 (Herbert/Adair) - **RETIREMENT/LIFE INSURANCE**. Allows retired education employees participating in a plan offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board to continue life insurance in force. (74 § 1316.1)
2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 296 (Morgan) - **DENTISTRY/HEALTH INSURANCE**. Adds definition of “accredited dental college” to Dental Act; modifies requirement for health benefit plans to include hospitalization benefits for dental procedure for severely disabled and certain minors. (59 § 328.3, 36 § 6060.6)
2/9/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 298 (Wilcoxson/Greenwood) - **TEACHERS/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**. Requires that any person serving on a residency committee for the purpose of reviewing teacher performance shall complete a professional development program in mentor training offered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation; modifies criteria for selection of mentor teachers. (70 § 6-182)
2/15/99 Title stricken
2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 323 (Muegge) - **SICK LEAVE**. Allows state employees to donate to another employee any amount of sick leave at the time of termination of employment. (74 § 840-2.23)
2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 346 (Hobson/Nations) - **FEES/NONRESIDENT TUITION**. This is a shell bill relating to higher education general enrollment fees and nonresident tuition. (70 § 3218.8)
2/17/99 Title stricken
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (43-0)

SB 347 (Hobson/Nations) - **FEES/NONRESIDENT TUITION**. This is a shell bill relating to supplementary fees established by the State Regents. The committee substitute increases library automation and materials fee from \$1.50 per credit hour to \$2.25; increases student service facilities fee from a maximum of \$4 to a maximum of \$7 per credit hour or \$65 per semester; increases student health care fee from \$46 to \$70 per semester. (70 § 3218.10)
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (46-0)

SB 354 (Monson/Askins) - **HEALTH INSURANCE AUTHORITY**. Removes authority for the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to purchase health care benefits and develop health care plans for state and education employees. (63 §§ 5006, 5011; 74 § 1364)
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass
2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

SB 355 (Monson/Askins) - **HEALTH INSURANCE AUTHORITY**. Allows the Employees Benefits Council to conduct competitive negotiations for the best and final offer to contract with health mainte-

nance organizations; requires the Council to retain as confidential information the initial request for proposal offers, as well as any subsequent bid offers made by health plans prior to final contract awards, as part of the best and final offer negotiations process for the benefit plan. (74 § 1365)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Rules Committee

SB 358 (Dickerson/Paulk) - **TRAVEL**. Increases the state travel per diem rate. (74 § 500.8)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

2/17/99 Do Pass - Senate (43-0)

2/22/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 361 (Monson/Toure) - **RETIREMENT**. Clarifies language relating to contributions to and funds of the Teachers' Retirement System. The committee substitute requires school districts, colleges and universities and agencies whose employees are members of the Teachers' Retirement System to charge all of their externally sponsored agreements such as grants, contracts and cooperative agreements an amount for contributions to the system; provides for calculation of amount. (70 § 17-108)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 366 (Fisher/Deutschendorf) - **TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD**. Creates an Oklahoma Technology Advisory Board comprising the members of the State Regents, the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary for Science and Technology Development; requires the Board to promote development of partnerships between private industries that use advanced technology and higher education and to encourage creation of infrastructure systems that may be used to facilitate the attraction of industries that use advanced technology to the state. (70 § 9001)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Science, Technology & Telecommunications Committee

SB 368 (Long/Benge) - **PHYSICIAN EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**. Prohibits spinal manipulation or spinal joint mobilization except by a physician who has successfully completed, at an accredited college or school where such manipulation is a primary method of treatment, at least 400 hours of classroom instruction and at least 800 hours of supervised clinical training in such treatment. The committee substitute pertains to fashion photography services. (59 §§ 731.7, 887.2, 887.13)

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (36-10)

2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Public Health Committee

SB 372 (Henry/Blackburn) - **COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN**. Sets term limits of membership of the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plan; exempts Board from the Central Purchasing Act for purposes of selecting depository institutions and account managers; exempts the Board of Trustees and the Northeast Oklahoma Public Facilities Authority from portions of the Administrative Procedures Act; repeals duplicate section. (70 §§ 3970.4, 3970.5; 75 § 250.4)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Education Committee

SB 373 (Monson/Askins) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Requires that health benefit plan contracts for state employees provide for a risk adjustment factor for adverse selection that may occur based on generally accepted actuarial principles; provides that an eligible education employee shall not be required to cover a spouse in order to cover children; allows certain employees who elect not to continue coverage to elect again to be covered if his or her spouse loses coverage for any reason; authorizes the Board to offer mail-order prescription plans and statewide point-of-service plans. (74 §§ 1306, 1309, 1316.2, 1316.3, 1363, 1371)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Bill Laid Over in Senate on General Order

2/25/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (41-5)

SB 376 (Leftwich) - **PRIVATIZATION OF STATE FUNCTIONS**. Creates the “Oklahoma Privatization of State Functions Act”; declares purpose of act to set guidelines for privatization of state services to ensure that, if approved, privatization is cost effective and in the best interest of the citizens of the state; requires that agencies allow employees to submit a proposal for cost savings; prohibits present and former state officers or employees with discretionary or decision-making authority in awarding privatization contracts from becoming an officer or employee of a business organization that is a party to such a contract with the subject state agency, for a period of two years; prohibits certain activities by business entities awarded such contracts. (74 §§ 595/595.6)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 382 (Cain/Toure) - **FACULTY APPEALS**. Requires college officials, when requested by the faculty member, to provide reasons to full-time faculty for employment decisions within seven working days; the bill also would require institutional governing boards to establish an appeals process. (70 § 3205.2)

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 400 (Stipe/Culver) - **DEGREE COMPLETION/CASH AWARDS**. Authorizes the Department of Corrections to provide cash awards to employees who complete the degree requirements for an associate’s, bachelor’s or master’s level program, through an accredited college or university, in the behavioral sciences; requires that the department ensure that any employee who completes one of the specific degree programs is offered an award; prohibits any single award from exceeding \$1,000 and prohibits an employee from being awarded more than \$2,500 during the duration of employment with the department; limits the total of such awards to \$10,000 each fiscal year; requires that any employee who accepts such cash award and voluntarily leaves employment with the department within two years must reimburse the department in full. (57 § 528.6)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 409 (Mickle/Dunegan) - **FINANCE AUTHORITY/MASTER LEASE**. Enacts the “Oklahoma Higher Education Finance Authority Act”; authorizes the State Regents to organize a public trust for the benefit of the entire state, to be known as the Oklahoma Higher Education Finance Authority, for the purpose of providing equipment and other personal property for institutions and entities within the State System; requires the authority to develop a master lease program; provides for a five-member board of trustees; provides for employment of underwriters, bond or other legal counsel, financial advisors, consultants, a financial institution to serve as trustee or paying agent; provides for issuance of bonds; exempts the authority from franchise, corporate, business and any other taxes levied by the state; prohibits the authority from participating in financing programs or issuing bonds for purposes that compete with or are similar in nature to those authorized for issuance by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, the Oklahoma

Housing Finance Agency, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, the Grand River Dam Authority, the Student Loan Authority and the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority without prior consent; requires the authority to submit annual reports to the Governor, the House Speaker and the Senate President Pro Tempore detailing operations and transactions; exempts acquisitions from certain purchasing requirements. (76 §§ 41.1/41.4)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 424 (Monson) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Exempts workplace medical plans from certain provisions relating to health maintenance organizations and prepaid health plans; prohibits operation of an HMO, prepaid health plan or preferred provider organization (PPO) without a license issued by the State Department of Health; requires the State Board of Health to promulgate rules regarding managed health care plans; requires managed health care plans to furnish a surety bond. (63 §§ 2501/2513)

2/4/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 439 (Monson/Roberts) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Clarifies language relating to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. The committee substitute requires the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board to schedule a hearing 30 days prior to adopting any change of reimbursement rates and methodology.

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 441 (Robinson/Weaver) - **LIFE INSURANCE**. Requires the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board to increase the basic term life insurance from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 465 (Williams/Hutchison) - **LICENSE PLATES**. Provides that, if fewer than 50 of any type of special license plate authorized prior to July 1, 1999, are issued prior to July 1, 2004, or within five years after first being offered for special plates authorized after July 1, 1999, the Tax Commission must discontinue issuance of that type of special plate.

2/11/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/25/99 Bill Amended and Passed - Senate (31-15)

Emergency Passed (33-13)

SB 480 (Hobson/Toure) - **TECHNOLOGY/CONFIDENTIALITY**. Provides for the confidentiality of state-owned or -controlled technology, if disclosure could adversely affect the development, transfer or commercialization of the technology or which, if disclosed, could give other persons or entities an advantage over public bodies in negotiating terms and conditions for the development, transfer or commercialization of technology, including any business, commercial, financial, marketing or proprietary information negotiated with, obtained from or supplied by a person or entity proposing to license or otherwise commercialize the technology. (51 § 24A.19)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 485 (Williamson/Bryant) - **TEACHER INCENTIVE PAY**. Requires the State Board of Education, for each school year, to determine the subject areas for which a teacher shortage exists; requires the Board to notify school districts of such subject areas for the next school year by April 1; encourages districts to create incentive pay plans to address teacher shortages for such subject areas; provides that incentive pay award reimbursement provisions shall not apply to such situations. (70 § 5-141.3)

2/17/99 Title stricken
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 504 (Henry/Weaver) - **RETIREMENT**. Authorizes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System who is employed as a certified teacher by a public school to receive annualized earnings from the school not to exceed \$25,000; terminates section July 1, 2004. The committee substitute no longer contains the termination language. (70 § 17-116.10)

2/17/99 Title stricken
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 505 (Williams/Braddock) - **TRAVEL**. Authorizes state officials and employees to receive travel reimbursement through direct deposit. (74 § 500.37)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 508 (Dickerson/Askins) - **PURCHASING**. Increases from \$2,500 to \$10,000 the contract threshold for requirement that state agency heads, whether or not the agency is subject to Central Purchasing, report annually to the State Purchasing Director. (74 § 85.43)

2/16/99 Title stricken
2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended
2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (44-2)
2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Government Operations Committee

SB 517 (Maddox/Deutschendorf) - **CAMPUS SAFETY**. Authorizes the administrative executive officer or anyone designated by the governing board of an institution of learning to maintain order at the institution to remove a person who is not a student, officer or employee thereof, who enters the institution with no purpose reasonably connected with institution activities, if the chief administrative officer or designee determines in good faith that the person substantially interferes with or poses a reasonably foreseeable threat to regular activities, proper maintenance of the building and grounds or to the safety of persons lawfully present at the institution; requires establishment of a grievance or appeals procedure. (21 § 1376)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass
2/23/99 Amended but Failed to Pass - Senate (20-28)
2/23/99 Held on Notice to Reconsider
2/25/99 Reconsidered and Returned to Senate on General Order

SB 540 (Williams/Nations) - **STUDENT LOANS**. Authorizes the State Regents to establish a program for making available forgivable loans to students who declare an intention to serve and who subsequently serve this state by teaching in geographical or subject shortage areas; authorizes the Regents to forgive loans provided to persons who actually render service as teachers in public schools if not less than 75 percent of the teaching assignment is in a shortage area. The committee substitute provides for financial incentives as well as forgivable loans. (70 § 698.2)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (43-0)
2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 552 (Fisher/Erwin) - **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**. Expresses legislative intent to facilitate implementation of State Questions 680 and 681 (1998) and to encourage higher education research aimed at expanding the technology-related educational and economic development opportunities throughout Oklahoma.

2/11/99 Title stricken
2/11/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (41-0)
2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 572 (Snyder/Morgan) - **FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS**. Authorizes the State Regents to allocate \$1 million to each Nobel Laureate currently employed at an institution within the State System to supplement their research; authorizes the Regents to allocate \$500,000 to each such Hughes Investigator and \$250,000 to each such National Science Foundation Fellow. The committee substitute no longer has language that would have provided that the allocation is a research supplement; authorizes the Regents, if the researcher terminates employment with the institution or the research is terminated by the governing board of the institution, to reallocate any remaining funds to the same or another institution for such purposes as the Regents deem appropriate; authorizes the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST) to contract for establishment, management and oversight of special projects in technology transfer and to redirect certain other monies that are subject to expenditure at the Board's discretion. (70 § 5060.30)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (44-0)

SB 589 (Smith/Askins) - **TRADEMARK ANTI-COUNTERFEITING**. Enacts the "Trademark Anti-Counterfeiting Act"; criminalizes the reproduction or copy of trademarks or intellectual property. The committee substitute requires a law enforcement officer, after forfeiture has been ordered, to destroy all seized items that bear a counterfeit mark. (21 §§ 1990/1990.2, 1738)

2/11/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (45-0)
2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Criminal Justice Committee

SB 602 (Hobson/Roberts) - **RETIREMENT**. Modifies maximum compensation levels to be used for calculating benefits for members of the Teachers Retirement System. The committee substitute also modifies compensation levels for employees of entities or institutions within the State System. (70 §§ 17-101, 17-116.2B)

2/17/99 Title stricken
2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 609 (Monson/Askins) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/ENROLLMENT**. Extends enrollment period for members of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Program during any legislative session in which benefits are modified by legislation; extends current calendar- year deductible until June 30, 2000. (74 §§ 1308.2, 1308.3)

2/10/99 Title stricken
2/10/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)
2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Rules Committee

SB 610 (Morgan/Roberts) - **RETIREMENT**. Extends to June 30, 2000, a benefit increase for members of the Teachers' Retirement System. (70 § 17-116.13)

2/10/99 Title stricken
2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (44-0)
2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Retirement Laws Committee

SB 647 (Mickle/Askins) - **STATE AGENCY ACCOUNTS.** Provides that the State Treasurer may waive the counter signature requirement for vouchers against agency clearing accounts and special accounts if certain requirements are met; provides that if the State Treasurer has an agreement with a financial institution to provide services to the State Treasurer, a state agency may pay the institution directly for services performed for the agency under the same terms, if the services are services not previously provided to the agency through the State Treasurer. (62 §§ 7.5a, 71)

2/9/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 669 (Smith/Toure) - **PUNITIVE DAMAGES.** Prohibits the state or political subdivisions from paying punitive or exemplary damages rendered against an employee; provides that the state or political subdivisions may indemnify employees for actual damages, fees and costs in certain cases; repeals provisions related to application of certain provisions. (51 § 162)

2/9/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/23/99 Bill Passed - Senate (43-0)

2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Judiciary Committee

SB 671 (Shurden/Leist) - **RAFFLES.** Provides that certain charitable organizations may conduct raffles with a prize of no more than \$2,500. The amendment adds that any raffle conducted by a qualified organization shall be conducted by members of the qualified organization without compensation to any member; prohibits hiring outside people to conduct the raffle, sell tickets or solicit contributions. (21 § 1051)

2/16/99 Title stricken

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 685 (Cain/Blackburn) - **HEALTH INSURANCE.** Requires certain health insurance policies to include coverage for hearing aids for children up to the age of 13. (36 § 6060.7)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Bill passed - Senate (31-13)

2/22/99 Second reading - Referred to House Insurance Committee

SB 697 (Wilcoxson/Coleman) - **TESTING.** This is a shell bill relating to norm-referenced tests. The committee substitute requires the State Board of Education to evaluate academic competencies to ensure they reflect high standards, are specific, well-defined, measurable, challenging and will prepare elementary students for next-grade-level course work and secondary students for post-secondary studies at institutions of higher education or vo-tech schools without the need for remediation in core curriculum areas; requires the Board, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, to contract to administer a series of grade-level appropriate, nationally normed, norm-referenced tests designed to determine the level of achievement attained by Oklahoma public school students; requires that the twelfth-grade criterion-referenced tests be replaced with end-of-instruction tests; specifies requirements for such tests; requires the Board to adopt a series of three student performance levels for end-of-instruction tests, with performance levels similar to those used for achievement levels on the National Assessment of Educational Progress; specifies requirements for reporting of tests results; encourages school districts to use performance on state end-of-instruction tests as a portion of students' transcripts; provides for alternative assessments for students with disabilities. (70 § 1210.508)

2/15/99 Title stricken

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 706 (Williams/Braddock) - **TUITION AUTHORITY.** Authorizes the State Regents to set tuition and fee levels. (70 §§ 3218.2, 3218.12, 3219.1)

2/15/99 Title stricken

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 713 (Henry/Boyd) - **TECHNOLOGY INCENTIVE FUND.** Provides that each school district that votes to levy 5 mills for technology shall be eligible for an award from the Technology Incentive Fund; provides for calculation of award; creates fund; effective upon voter approval of SJR 19. The committee substitute makes school districts voting to levy five mills for technology eligible for an award from a technology incentive fund created for the State Board of Education; provides for calculation of such award; effective upon voter approval of SJR 8. (70 §§ 15-106.2, 15-106.3) (*See SJR 19*)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 714 (Fisher/Tyler) - **SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS.** Subjects to availability of funds the authority of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics to solicit proposals and award grants for pilot projects that develop models for advanced science and math curricula at vo-tech school sites, colleges or universities, or at public school sites via distance learning. (70 § 1210.404)

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass As Amended

2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (47-0)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 715 (Crutchfield/McCarter) - **TEACHER PREPARATION.** Requires teacher preparation pre-service programs to include the study of classroom management skills, safety and discipline; requires school district professional development programs to include a component on classroom management skills, safety and discipline techniques. (70 §§ 6-185, 6-194)

2/15/99 Title stricken

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (43-1)

2/25/99 Second reading - Referred to House Education Committee

SB 720 (Taylor/Benson) - **SPACE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT.** "Oklahoma Space Industry Development Act"; creates an Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority to promote development and improvement of space exploration and spaceport facilities, to stimulate development of space commerce and education, including the commercialization of the space industry and development of space-related industries, to promote research and development related to space and space-related industry and to promote tourism in connection with the foregoing; permits the authority to cooperate with municipalities, counties, regional authorities, state agencies and organizations, appropriate federal agencies and organizations and other interested persons and groups; creates a seven-member Board of Directors appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the Senate; requires that all but one board member be a state resident; requires that members have experience in the aerospace or commercial space industry or finance, or other significant relevant experience; permits the authority to acquire real property for the purpose of establishing, constructing, maintaining or operating a spaceport and spaceport facilities; designates certain property at Burns Flat in Washita County as spaceport territory; provides procedures for landowners to exclude their land from spaceport territory; provides for bonding authority; provides for motor fuel and sales exemptions for the space industry development authority and spaceport users. (74 §§ 5201/5237)

2/4/99 Title stricken

2/4/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/16/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (46-0)
2/18/99 Second reading - Referred to House Appropriations & Budget Committee

SB 747 (Williams/Boyd) - **ACADEMY SCHOOLS.** "Academy Schools Act"; defines "academy school" as a public school established by contract with a board of education of a public school district, a vocational-technical institution, a governing board of an institution of higher education, a municipality or the State Board of Education to provide learning that will improve student achievement; specifies contents of applications for academy schools; provides for establishment of academy schools under contract; requires a local board of education or the state board to either accept or reject sponsorship of an academy school within 90 days of receipt of an application; gives an applicant 30 days to submit a revised application after notification of rejection and the school board 30 days to accept or reject the revised application; provides for appeal to the state board of education of applications rejected by local boards; specifies requirements for contracts for academy schools; requires that academy schools be nonsectarian in their programs, admission policies, employment practices and all other operations; prohibits a sponsor from authorizing an academy school or program that is affiliated with a non-public sectarian school or religious institution; requires that academy schools provide a comprehensive program of instruction for at least a kindergarten program or any grade between grades one and 12; authorizes instruction to persons younger than age five and older than age 18; requires academy schools to design programs to at least meet the core curriculum adopted by the state board and to participate in the testing as required by the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act; provides for auditing requirements; prohibits an academy school from being used as a method of providing education or generating revenue for students who are being home schooled; prohibits an academy school from charging tuition; requires that an academy school be considered a school district for purposes of tort liability under the Governmental Tort Claims Act; limits terms for academy school contracts to five years from the first day of operation; provides for renewal; allows an academy school, in the event a renewal is denied, to apply to another sponsor to transfer the operation of the school; provides for termination of contracts; specifies requirements for admission of students; creates an "Academy Schools Stimulus Fund" within the State Treasury, administered by the Department of Education to provide financial support to academy school applicants and academy schools for start-up costs and costs associated with renovating or remodeling existing buildings and structures for use by an academy school. (70 §§ 3-130/3-141)

2/15/99 Title stricken
2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 750 (Rozell/Paulk) - **AUDITS/GRANT FUNDS.** Requires all governmental entities to have audits prepared of grant funds received, administered, used or under the direct or indirect control of such entity or its employees; requires that a report be filed with the State Auditor and Inspector and the Director of the Office of State Finance within three months after the end of the fiscal year. The committee substitute modifies language to require governmental entities to report grant funds received, administered, used or under the direct or indirect control of such entity or its employees; requires that a copy of the report be filed within four months after the end of the fiscal year, rather than three months. (74 § 212A)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (44-0)

SB 758 (Horner/Ross) - **SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM.** States legislative intent that Oklahoma history, including African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic Americans and other ethnic groups in Oklahoma be included in the social studies core curriculum; requires the State Board of Education to prescribe courses of instruction for all students, kindergarten through grade 12, in social studies classes, in-

cluding history, geographic, civics and sociology, that reflect the cultures of all of America's diverse people. (70 § 11-103.6)

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Laid Over

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 763 (Williams/Blackburn) - **PARAPROFESSIONAL TEACHERS.** States legislative intent that the State Board of Education adopt a program for career development of paraprofessional teachers; states purpose of the program to provide to paraprofessional teachers a system of career development based upon education and training advancement and to furnish economic incentives to encourage excellence among paraprofessional teachers. (70 § 6-127A)

2/15/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass

SB 764 (Maddox/Deutschendorf) - **ORTHOTISTS/PROSTHETISTS.** Creates the "Oklahoma Licensed Orthotists and Prosthetists Act"; provides for licensure, regulations and continuing education for the dispensing of therapeutic shoes and prosthetic devices by the State Board of Health; requires the Commissioner of Health, with the advice and consent of the Board of Health, to appoint a seven-member Oklahoma Licensed Orthotists and Prosthetists Advisory Council. (59 §§ 3001/3011)

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 784 (Williams/Bryant) - **EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS.** Requires that entities responsible for setting standards and determining progress within the state's educational system shall ensure compliance with certain criteria relating to content and student achievement standards, mandatory statewide testing, professional development, accountability reporting and rewards, sanctions and targeted assistance; states legislative intent to develop an early intervention program for schools identified as low-performing, and a program providing rewards for districts which make significant average test score increases, whose scores the previous year were in the lowest quartile. (70 § 1210.804)

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 786 (Morgan/Wells) - **LANGSTON UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT.** Creates an endowment account for Langston University within the State Regents Endowment Fund. (70 § 3952)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 787 (Morgan/Wells) - **TUITION INCENTIVE.** "Oklahoma Tuition Incentive Act"; creates the Oklahoma Tuition Incentive Program to enhance economic growth in the state through increasing the number of college graduates; provides that eligible students may receive payment from the Oklahoma Tuition Incentive Trust Fund for up to four years of undergraduate enrollment fees at a State System institution or tuition for enrollment in post-secondary programs of an area vocational-technical school; requires that students be Oklahoma residents who have graduated from an accredited high school, have satisfied higher education admission standards and have secured admission to an institution within the State System or a post-secondary vo-tech program. (70 §§ 2701/2705, 3953.2)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SB 798 (Williams/Nations) - **ADVANCED PLACEMENT.** Expands financial assistance under the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program to include test fee assistance to public school students who take more than one advanced placement test in one year; provides for pre-advanced placement

courses which prepare students to enroll and participate in an advanced placement course; authorizes the State Board of Education to award schools subsidized training for pre-advanced placement courses and international baccalaureate courses and grants for development of an advanced placement vertical team, a group of teachers in a particular discipline who work cooperatively to develop a vertically aligned program to help students acquire academic skills necessary for success in the advanced placement program. The committee substitute expands financial assistance under the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive Program to include test fee assistance to public school students who take more than one advanced placement test in one year; authorizes the State Board of Education to award schools subsidized training for international baccalaureate courses and, for students who take more than one advanced placement test in any one school year, a share of the advanced placement test fee. (70 §§ 1210.701/1210.703)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 800 (Wilcoxson/John Sullivan) - **CORE CURRICULUM.** Requires as a condition of a school receiving state accreditation that all students in grades 9 through 12 enroll in at least six credits of academic and/or vocational course work in any academic day; mandates that public schools increase high school core curriculum requirements on a graduated basis, requires that beginning with the 2002-2003 school year students be required to complete four units each of math, English, social studies and science; designates courses which shall meet such requirements. The committee substitute requires, as a condition of a school receiving state accreditation that all students in grades 9 through 12 enroll in at least six credits of academic and/or vocational course work in any academic day; requires that high schools meet such accreditation standards by June 30, 2001; sets a series of goals for the high-school-core-curriculum and specifies courses permitted for such curriculum; states legislative intent that all students, in consultation with their parents and teachers, plan a program of study for their high school years that is either a college-preparatory curriculum or an academic-core curriculum plus a career concentration. (70 §§ 3-104.4, 11-103.6)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SB 803 (Henry/Braddock) - **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.** “Administrative Hearings Act”; creates the Administrative Hearings Panel which shall exercise the judicial authority of state boards, agencies and commissions; grants the panel jurisdiction over cases and other matters confided to it by law or administrative rule or referred by an administrative agency. (75 §§ 351/369)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SJR 2 (Herbert/Glover) - **SCHOOL LAND FUNDS.** Proposed constitutional amendment removing restrictions on use of the permanent school fund for common schools; requires that all earnings, interest, dividends and capital gains from investment of the fund shall be credited to the corpus of the fund; provides that the amount of annual distribution shall be between 4.75 percent and 5.5 percent of the average of the year-end market value of the funds for the immediately preceding three fiscal years. The committee substitute changes “corpus” to “principal.”

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

SJR 8 (Henry/Boyd) - **AD VALOREM/TECHNOLOGY FUNDS.** A proposed constitutional amendment authorizing school districts to hold elections to approve additional ad valorem tax levies for establishment of a technology fund for schools; limits such increase to no more than 5 mills. (*See SB 713*)

2/8/99 Title stricken
2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended
2/16/99 Amended and Passed - Senate (46-0)
2/18/99 Second reading - Referred to House Revenue & Taxation Committee

SJR 19 (Henry/Staggs) - **AD VALOREM.** A proposed constitutional amendment authorizing an increase in the rate of ad valorem taxation for a school district building fund not to exceed 5 mills; requires approval by a majority of school district voters. (*See SB 713*)

2/9/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass
2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (40-7)
2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to House Revenue & Taxation Committee

SJR 21 (Pruitt) - **WILLIAM B. BRIGHT/NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY.** Designates State Highway 51 between Broken Arrow and Coweta as the Dr. William R. Bright Bypass. Dr. Bright, founder of the Campus Crusade for Christ International, is a graduate of Northeastern State University.

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - Senate (45-1)
2/24/99 Referred Direct to Calendar

SJR 24 (Shurden) - **SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS/EVENT TICKETS.** Calls for a vote of the people to reduce the state sales and use tax from 4.5 percent to 2 percent and levy a tax on personal, business and professional services; deletes several existing sales tax exemptions for transportation and telecommunications services, printing, advertising and manufacturing; deletes specific exemption for proceeds from the sale of admission tickets that is separately stated on the ticket of admission for the repayment of money borrowed by any accredited state-supported college or university for the purpose of capital improvements on any facility to be used for athletic events or theatrical productions; deletes specific exemption for complimentary or free tickets for admission to places of amusement, sports, entertainment, exhibition, display or other recreational events or activities which are issued through a box office or other entity which is operated by a state higher education institution. (68 § 1356)

2/16/99 Title stricken
2/16/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended

SJR 25 (Capps/bonny) - **SPACE INDUSTRY/TECHNOLOGY OWNERSHIP.** Proposed constitutional amendment authorizing the Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority to have an ownership interest in space technology, whether or not the technology is protected pursuant to federal or state law governing intellectual property, and may have an ownership interest in a business enterprise or private business entity that is involved with space technology, if the technology is a result of research or development involving the authorized use of facilities, equipment, or services of the Authority.

2/8/99 Senate Committee - Do Pass as Amended
2/16/99 Passed - Senate (46-0)
2/18/99 Second reading - Referred to House Science & Technology Committee

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

SCR 3 (Leftwich/Nations) - **CONSUMER CREDIT PROGRAM.** Requests that Oklahoma public higher education institutions include a consumer credit education program as part of new student orientation.

2/9/99 Senate introduced
2/10/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Education Committee

SENATE RESOLUTIONS

SR 2 (Ford) - **LYNN PEACHER/NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY**. Congratulates Oklahoma's 1998-99 Teacher of the Year Lynn Peacher. Ms. Peacher earned her Bachelor's degree at Oklahoma State University and continued her education at Northeastern State University.

2/9/99 Adopted, to Secretary of State

HOUSE BILLS

HB 1001X (Settle/Haney) - **AGENCY BUDGET REDUCTION**. The floor substitute reduces state agency budgets for the remainder of FY'99 by an average of 1.2 percent or a total of about \$25 million.

2/9/99 Signed by Governor

HB 1003X (Rice/Easley) - **OIL PRODUCTION TAX/EDUCATION CAPITAL FUNDS**. Relates to lowering the gross production tax rate on oil production; provides that revenues from oil production at 4-percent and 7-percent rates in excess of the amounts apportioned to schools and counties will be divided between funds for common education capital improvements and higher education capital improvements. The floor substitute changes the new funds being created and allocation of gross production tax funds. In addition to a common education technology and higher education capital fund the measure creates an Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Fund and Rural Economic Action Plan fund. When the tax is at 7 percent, the tuition fund, common education fund and higher education capital fund, would be allocated 25.72 percent each; at a 4-percent tax, tuition, education technology and higher education capital would get 22.5 percent each; at 1 percent, revenues would be evenly split to county government and local schools; revenues going into the funds would be capped at \$100 million; excess amounts would be deposited in the General Revenue Fund. (62 § 41.29c/41.29e)

2/5/99 Signed by Governor

HB 1002 (Askins/Brown) - **RETIREMENT/TOBACCO SETTLEMENT**. Creates a Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Fund; requires that one-third of 95 percent of trust fund earnings shall be transferred to the Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement (OTRS) Fund until such transfers amount to \$1 billion, with the remainder to be transferred to the Tobacco Settlement Special Cash Fund. The floor substitute takes out any references to particular percentages or fractions, leaving these designations blank. (37 §§ 600.13, 600.14)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/25/99 House Adopts Floor Substitute

2/25/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (99-2)

HB 1005 (Adair) - **RETIREMENT/REAUTHORIZATION**. Deletes requirement for annual reauthorization of retirement benefits for certain members of OTRS. (70 § 17-116.13)

2/8/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/16/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (94-0)

2/23/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

HB 1019 (Erwin) - **TEACHER PREPARATION COMMISSION**. Establishes a July 1, 2003, termination date for the Commission for Teacher Preparation. (70 § 6-199, 74 § 3904)

2/16/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Title stricken
2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (98-1)

HB 1063 (Benson/Haney) - **ENDOWMENT FUND**. Permits adjustments by a trustee who is a beneficiary of a trust, if the trustee is a tax-exempt charitable, religious or educational organization and, as a beneficiary, will hold the beneficial interest as an institutional endowment fund as defined in the Oklahoma Uniform Management of Institutional Endowment Funds Act for the benefit of one or more tax-exempt charitable, religious or educational organizations. (60 § 175.104)

2/9/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass
2/23/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (99-0)

HB 1069 (Thomas/Mickle) - **MURRAY STATE COLLEGE**. Updates name of Murray State College, deleting "of Technology". The committee substitute declares certain state property in Tishomingo to be the property of Murray State College; requires the Department of Central Services to implement a transfer of such property from the state to the college. (70 § 3407.3)

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1095 (Stites) - **RETIREMENT/HEALTH INSURANCE**. Increases the amount the Teachers' Retirement System is required to pay for retired members' health insurance premiums.

2/8/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1119 (Beutler) - **TAX EXEMPTION/INTEREST INCOME**. Provides an income tax exemption for interest income on obligations issued on or after July 1, 1999, by or on behalf of the state or a political subdivision and which are exempt from federal income tax, except interest income on obligations issued on behalf of a tax-exempt charitable organization. (68 § 2358)

2/16/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1130 (Gray) - **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**. Modifies the Administrative Procedures Act to remove the requirement that legislative disapproval of an agency preemptive rule must be done within the first 30 calendar days of the next regular legislative session following promulgation; prohibits invalidation of an emergency rule on the grounds that the contents of the rule impact statement are insufficient or inaccurate. (75 §§ 250.4, 250.6, 251, 253)

2/10/99 Title stricken
2/10/99 House Committee - Do Pass as Amended

HB 1136 (Hilliard) - **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**. Modifies the criteria for state agency rule impact statement waivers to remove impracticability as grounds; requires that rule impact statements include a determination that the proposed rule does not impose more stringent requirements than those provided by federal or state law, the source of revenue to be used for implementing and enforcing the proposed rule, a description of the costs and the benefits of the proposed rule to all affected classes of persons, a description of the uncertainties associated with the estimated costs and benefits, any information on any cost impacts of the proposed rule received by the agency from a private or public entity, a determination of the nature and costs of any paperwork requirements and any professional services that may be required for implementation of the proposed rule by the affected classes of persons, a determination of the effect of the rule on cost-of-living and doing business in the geographic area where the rule is to be implemented, a determination of the effect of the rule on employment in the county where the rule is to be implemented, a determination of the effect of the rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, a risk management report that provides an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent

the proposed rule will reduce the risk, and a determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the rule is not implemented. (75 §§ 253, 303)

2/10/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Title stricken

2/22/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (98-1)

2/23/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB 1140 (Easley) - EMPLOYEE INFORMATION. Clarifies language relating to confidentiality of state employee personal information. The floor substitute provides that state agencies shall continue to receive basic plan insurance and dependent care coverage resulting from 1998 legislation for employees who are on leave without pay due to a job-related injury or illness. The amendment to the floor substitute prohibits state employees' home addresses, home telephone numbers and Social Security numbers from being open for public inspection or disclosure. (74 § 840-2.11)

2/8/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/25/99 House Adopts Floor Substitute

2/25/99 Bill Passed - House (100-0)

HB 1152 (Clay Pope) - LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES LIABILITY. Enacts the "Oklahoma Livestock Activities Liability Limitation Act;" provides that any person participating in livestock activities shall assume all legal responsibility and shall not recover for any negligent injury, harm or damage to such person's own person or property unless such was caused by the intentional acts of another person. The committee substitute adds an additional section that provides that, with certain exceptions, a livestock activity sponsor or professional shall not be liable for any injury to a participant resulting from the inherent risks of livestock activities; exempts from the act horse racing, independent contractors and their employees, employees of the sponsor or livestock professional; provides that nothing shall limit the liability of the sponsor or professional in cases involving knowingly faulty tack or equipment, failure to make reasonable efforts to determine the ability of the participant to engage safely in the activity, situations where the sponsor or professional owns or controls land or facilities with a known dangerous latent condition for which warnings have not been posted, and acts that constitute willful or wanton disregard for the participant's safety; provides that nothing in this act shall prevent or limit liability under products liability laws or for activities resulting in a participant's death from inherent risks of livestock activities; requires posting of warning notice. (76 §§ 50.1/50.3)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1200 (Ross/Ford) - STATE SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS. Adds Oklahoma State University-Tulsa to the State System; changes Rogers University to Rogers State University; changes designation of OSU/Tulsa to OSU-Tulsa throughout the bill; changes the "A&M Board" to "OSU/A&M Board" throughout the bill. (70 § 3201).

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1201 (Ross) - ACADEMIC SCHOLARS. Adds Presidential Scholars to the Category II list of award qualifiers for the Academic Scholars Program; requires the Regents to annually report on the number of graduates who stay in the state and the number who leave Oklahoma; increases from 20 percent to 25 percent the number of awards that may go to nonresident students. (70 §§ 2403, 2404)

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1203 (Roberts) - DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES. Modifies language relating to enhancement of penalties for violations of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act; requires enhancement of the penalty for certain drug-related offenses committed within 5,000 feet, rather than 1,000 feet, of a

public school, public or private college or university, or other higher education institution, or certain other public property; authorizes law enforcement agencies to destroy seized controlled dangerous substances when the amount seized in a single incident exceeds 10 pounds; outlines procedure; provides for written notice to defendant or suspect. (63 §§ 2-401, 2-508, 21 § 17)

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (100-0)

HB 1210 (Ross) - HEALTH INSURANCE/PROSTATE CANCER. Requires health benefit plans to offer coverage for prostate cancer screening for men over the age of 50 years and men over the age of 40 who are in high-risk categories; requires that such coverage be exempt from policy deductibles; prohibits such coverage from exceeding \$65 per prostate-cancer-screening or the actual cost of the prostate-cancer-screening. (36 § 6060.7)

2/2/99 Passed Committee as Amended

2/11/99 House Amended and Passed (57-40)

2/23/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Human Resources Committee

HB 1237 (Hastings) - WORKERS' COMPENSATION/RETIREMENT/STATE INSURANCE

FUND. Creates the "State Insurance Fund Loss Portfolio Transfer Act"; states legislative intent to seek a loss portfolio transfer of claims against and losses of the State Insurance Fund; states finding that, if there is a loss portfolio transfer, the state is entitled to 50 percent of the remaining unencumbered funds, or "special surplus", for the state's management and administrative role with regard to the Fund; requires that the remaining portion of the special surplus, after transfer of 50 percent to the state for its role as manager and administrator of the State Insurance Fund, be distributed equitably to policyholders of record since 1980; requires that one-third of the state's portion of the funds be deposited to the credit of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma (OTRS), one-fourth to the Firefighters Pension and Retirement Fund, one-sixth to the Special Indemnity Fund and the remainder to the General Revenue Fund; requires a Contingency Review Board review of the proposed agreement regarding the transfer and an independent statement as to the fairness of the proposed agreement for the state; provides for appeal of the contingency board's decision. The committee substitute changes dates relating to requests for proposal from "1998" to "1999". (85 §§ 154/160)

2/18/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1263 (Begley/Hobson) - CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY. Creates the "Technology in the Classroom Act"; creates a nine-member Commission on School Technology, the membership of which include the Chancellor and the Director of OneNet or their designees; requires the State Department of Education, the Department of Vocational and Technical Education and the State Regents to provide administrative support for the Commission; requires the Commission to develop a state classroom technology plan; outlines criteria for plan; requires local boards of education to develop district plans; states legislative intent that each State System institution develop an institution classroom technology plan that meets the applicable requirements of and contains the applicable components of the state classroom technology plan; provides that the State Regents shall assist in the development of, evaluate, and approve all institution classroom technology plans; states legislative intent that each higher education institution shall annually review, and if necessary develop modifications to, the institution classroom technology plan and submit it to the State Regents for evaluation and approval; creates the Common Education Classroom Technology Fund; authorizes the State Board of Education to allocate funds to implement plans; requires the State Board of Education, the State Vo-Tech Board and the State Regents to annually prepare a joint funding plan; permits State System institutions to use any statewide contract for technology equipment established by Central Services. (70 §§ 1210.901/ 1210.911)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1271 (Seikel) - **STATEWIDE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM (STARS)/FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**. This is a shell bill relating to the Statewide Temporary Assistance Responsibility System (STARS) and federal block grant funds. (56 § 230.50, 62 § 41.13a)

2/9/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1285 (Benson/Taylor) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/MENTAL ILLNESS**. Enacts the "Dr. James M. Behrman Mental Health Parity Act"; requires group health insurance and health benefit plans to include coverage for severe mental illness; allows such benefits be provided through a managed care system; requires that such benefits be equal to treatment of and subject to the same preauthorization and utilization review mechanisms as all other physical diseases and disorders; provides an exemption for policies providing coverage for a specified disease or other limited benefit coverage and for groups with 50 or fewer employees; defines "severe mental illness" as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness), major depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and schizoaffective disorder; makes such requirement inapplicable to an agreement, contract or policy in which such coverage will result in an increase of more than 3 percent in premium cost. (36 §§ 6060.10, 6060.11)

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1293 (Settle) - **PURCHASING/PROPOSALS/BIDS**. Requires state agencies, whether or not the agency is otherwise exempt from requirements of the Central Purchasing Act, prior to drafting a request for proposal (RFP) or invitation to bid (ITB), to terminate any relationship that the agency has had with any individual or business entity for preliminary work on the RFP or ITB; allows such entities to receive such RFP or ITB and submit proposals or bids; requires that, when issuing the RFP or ITB, the agency disclose the identity of any entity that provided such assistance; provides that an individual or business entity that assists a state agency in evaluating proposals or bids shall be ineligible to receive a contract; makes it unlawful for any public officer, employee or person representing a state agency or officer from making any unauthorized disclosure of information which is or will be contained in a bid notice or which is submitted in response to a bid notice in advance of the date on which the notice is to be made known to all prospective bidders; makes it unlawful to solicit such information; designates violation with intent to defraud the state a felony; requires that a notarized noncollusion statement be attached to any bid or contract submitted to the state, whether or not subject to the Central Purchasing Act. (74 §§ 85.7b, 85.15a, 85.22, 85.23)

2/15/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1296 (Settle/Hobson) - **FEES/NONRESIDENT TUITION**. This is a shell bill relating to higher education general enrollment fees and nonresident tuition. (70 § 3218.8)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1300 (Settle) - **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**. Provides that a workers' compensation claimant may elect to have hearings in either Oklahoma City or Tulsa; allows employer to object under certain conditions. The committee substitute also authorizes a claimant determined to be permanently and partially disabled or eligible for permanent partial disability benefits to receive benefits at the same rate as the employee's temporary total disability benefits while actively participating in a retraining or job placement program authorized by the court or the employer; prohibits payment of compensation at the rate of permanent partial disability during such time. (85 §§ 3.5, 16)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1311 (Greenwood) - **SCHOOL TESTING**. Requires the State Board of Education to post on the Internet criterion-referenced sample tests for each grade level and subject matter test administered to students pursuant to the School Testing Program Act; requires the Board to maintain the tests on the Internet throughout the year and make copies of each test available for inspection in at least one location in each school district that can be accessed by the public; requires the Board, as changes are made in the Priority Academic Student Skills Curriculum, to update the tests; requires that the sample tests reflect the actual test administered to students and allows them to contain questions used on actual tests given in previous years. (70 § 1210.507)

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1317 (Fields) - **TAXES/INHERITED PROPERTY**. Makes inherited property held by colleges or schools taxable if not devoted to the appropriate objects of any such school. (68 § 2887)

2/3/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/23/99 Title stricken

2/23/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (100-0)

HB 1318 (Stanley) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/FREEDOM OF CHOICE**. This is a shell bill relating to the Health Care Freedom of Choice Act. The committee substitute includes ambulatory surgical centers in the Health Care Freedom of Choice Act; provides for preferred provider organizations; provides penalties for violation of the act. (36 § 6053)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1342 (Davis) - **TUITION TRUST**. This is a shell bill relating to the Tuition Trust Act. The committee substitute creates until Feb. 1, 2000, the Oklahoma Tuition Trust Act Task Force to study and make recommendations for implementing the Tuition Trust Act. The Task Force membership includes the Chancellor or his designee.

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1344 (Leist/Shurden) - **VETERINARY SCHOOLS**. Removes authority for the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue certificates to practice for a short period of time in the state with no anticipation of permanent practice in the state or to practice while in the employ of an approved school of veterinary medicine and while doing limited veterinary work for such school. The committee substitute contains no definition of "veterinarian-client-patient relationship." (59 §§ 698.8a, 698.14b)

2/15/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1351 (Stanley/Morgan) - **DENTAL FACULTY**. Prohibits faculty permit holders from engaging in faculty or private practice of dentistry. (59 §§ 328.19, 328.21, 328.27)

2/11/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/23/99 Title stricken

2/23/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (96-0)

HB 1355 (Gray) - **PHYSICIAN PROFILE INFORMATION**. States legislative intent to provide easily accessible information on Oklahoma physicians; requires physicians applying for licensure or re-licensure to provide comprehensive information about the physician's education, practice, disciplinary actions and criminal history involving moral turpitude; requires the Health Department to annually publish and make available to the public the summary results of utilization information gathered from physi-

cians for certain categories of procedures; requires that summary information and provider profiles be made available to the public upon request; provides penalties. (63 §§ 2550.1, 2550.2)

2/10/99 House Committee - Laid Over

2/17/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1362 (Hastings) - **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**. Authorizes state entities to provide workers' compensation insurance coverage to employees by self-insuring and making appropriation of funds to cover their risk or by insuring with licensed insurance carriers other than the State Insurance Fund. (85 § 2b)

2/17/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1364 (Begley) - **EDUCATION LEADERSHIP**. Clarifies language relating to the Education Leadership Oklahoma program. (70 § 6-204.2)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1368 (Boyd) - **GENETIC RESEARCH**. Creates the "Genetic Research Studies Nondisclosure Act"; requires that all records of individual subjects in a genetic research study be confidential, not subject to subpoena or discovery in a civil suit and not disclosed to employers of health insurers without the informed consent of the subject; requires informed consent prior to disclosure of stored tissues that derive from surgery, other diagnostic or therapeutic steps or autopsy for genetic or other research studies; allows such informed consent to be obtained as a part of consent for treatment or admission to a hospital or clinic; permits publication or other use of the results of a genetic research study for research or educational purposes if the study does not identify individual subjects, unless specific informed consent has been obtained. The floor substitute also provides that the act shall not apply to an insurer or to an individual or third party dealing with an insurer in the ordinary course of underwriting life, disability income or long-term care insurance; allows disclosure of stored tissues for genetic or other studies if informed consent has been obtained; permits publication of research results if no individual subject is identified. (36 § 3614.4)

2/4/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/23/99 Floor Substitute Amended and Adopted

2/25/99 Bill Passed - House (100-0)

HB 1377 (Ervin/Fisher) - **JOB TRAINING**. Creates the "Workforce Training Incentive Act"; provides an income tax credit for a percentage of the cost of a qualified employee training expense incurred by an eligible employer, based upon the number of workers employed by the employer as identified in a job training expense plan; prohibits an employer from receiving a credit for more than 50 employees in a taxable year; requires the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to develop a method to evaluate plans for training expenses that qualify as eligible for such credit; requires an employer, in order to be eligible for such credit, to file a job training expense plan with the Commission; states that the total amount of credits allowed to all employers for any fiscal year shall not exceed \$2 million. (68 §§ 2357.35/2357.37)

2/8/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/23/99 Title stricken

2/22/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (95-0)

HB 1384 (Roach/Brown) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Creates the "Oklahoma Women's and Children's Accessibility to Health Services Act"; requires health benefit plans to allow obstetricians and gynecologists as primary care practitioners; states legislative intent that a woman at all times have direct access to

the services of a participating obstetrician or gynecologist under any health benefit plan; requires a health benefit plan that requires an enrollee to designate a participating primary care practitioner and provides for dependent care coverage to permit a dependent minor enrollee to access a pediatrician for pediatric care services as a primary care practitioner. (63 §§ 2550.1/2550.5)

2/3/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1399 (Lindley) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Creates the "Oklahoma Managed Care Consumer Protection Act"; states purpose to provide authority for the state to ensure that enrollees receive adequate health care services under a managed care system. (63 § 2550.1)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1411 (Perry) - **ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES**. Delays the reporting date for the electronic commerce pilot program until Dec. 15, 1999; authorizes the Office of State Finance, in conjunction with the Department of Central Services, to implement electronic signature certification authority technology and to issue or cause to be issued certificates of authority for electronic or digital signatures used in conjunction with electronic business and commerce transactions in state government; delays the termination date of the Task Force on Electronic Signature Technology until Feb. 1, 2000. The committee substitute no longer delays the termination of the Task Force. New language creates a 38-member Task Force on Electronic Commerce until June 1, 2000, to study the technology of and applications for electronic commerce and to prepare recommendations for legislative and other action needed to assure the availability and use of electronic commerce technology in the state; provides for members who were serving on the Electronic Signature Task Force, as of Feb. 1, 1999, to automatically be appointed to serve on the Electronic Commerce Task Force; requires the Task Force to issue a final report by Jan. 1, 2000. (74 §§ 5060.50, 5060.51)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1413 (Perry) - **COMPUTER MALFUNCTION/LIABILITY**. Provides the state and political subdivisions immunity from liability for losses caused by failure or malfunction occurring before Dec. 31, 2005, that is caused by failure of computer software or computer device to accurately or properly recognize, calculate, display, sort or otherwise process dates or time; allows a claim to be brought pursuant to the Governmental Tort Claims Act for medical negligence caused by such failure to accurately or properly recognize, calculate, display, sort or otherwise process dates or times if such failure resulted in bodily injury or death. (51 § 155.2)

2/17/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1415 (Hiatt) - **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**. Requires that rule impact statements relating to proposed state agency rules be available to the public; requires the notice of intent to include the rule impact statement or a statement that the Governor has waived the requirement in writing; adds to issues to be addressed in ruled impact statements to include a determination that the proposed rule does not impose more stringent requirements than those provided by federal or state law, the source of revenue to be used for implementing and enforcing the proposed rule, a determination of paperwork and other requirements, a determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the costs of doing business, a determination of the effect of the proposed rule on employment, a determination of the proposed rule's effect on the public health, safety and environment if the rule is not implemented. (75 §§ 253, 303)

2/10/99 Title stricken

2/10/99 House Committee - Do Pass as Amended

HB 1420 (Graves/Long) - **OBSCENE MATERIAL**. Eliminates exemptions to certain unlawful acts relating to obscene material and child pornography; provides for injunctive relief; requires a magistrate to

whom such material is delivered to issue in writing the factual and legal basis for determination of the character of the child pornography or obscene material; increases certain penalties. (21 § 1024.1)

2/9/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/22/99 Bill Passed - House (97-2)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB 1425 (Askins) - **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**. Clarifies language relating to authorization for Workers' Compensation claims by state employees. The committee substitute makes a claimant whose injury does not prevent returning to employment with the same employer at the same or greater rate of pay ineligible to receive a permanent partial disability workers' compensation award. (85 § 2c)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Title stricken

2/24/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (99-1)

HB 1428 (Staggs) - **RETIREMENT**. Establishes the Teachers' Deferred Savings Incentive Plan Fund; requires the Teachers' Retirement System to match up to \$25 per month of amount each active member is contributing to a plan account. (70 § 17-121)

2/15/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1439 (Glover) - **STATEWIDE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM (STARS)**. Provides that hourly employment approved by the Department of Human Services as required work activity for Statewide Temporary Assistance Responsibility System recipients must meet federal minimum wage, taxation and safety requirements; provides that failure of teen parent recipients to graduate from high school or obtain a GED shall be grounds for termination of benefits under the STARS program. (56 § 230.52)

2/9/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/24/99 Bill Passed - House (99-0)

HB 1443 (Betty Boyd) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Creates the "Oklahoma Health Care Quality Improvement Act". The committee substitute expands the list of entities authorized to provide and receive information for use in the course of studies for the purpose of reducing morbidity or mortality to include the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, the Oklahoma Hospital Association, the American Osteopathic Association and the American Hospital Association. (63 § 2550.1)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1458 (Miller/Dunlap) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. Allows state and education employees to elect to cover a dependent child and not cover a spouse. (74 §§ 1303, 1309)

2/18/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1469 (Langmacher) - **INCOME TAX/TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**. Recodifies provisions relating to adjustments to income for tax purposes, including provision for tax adjustments for transfers of technology to qualified small business. (68 § 2358B)

2/3/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/24/99 Title stricken

2/24/99 Amended and Passed - House (99-0)

HB 1482 (Blackburn/Henry) - **COLLEGE SAVINGS**. Establishes terms for members of the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plan, requires that depository institutions be selected through a competitive selective process, and exempts the selection process of financial institutions from the Central Pur-

chasing Act. The floor substitute exempts the Board of Trustees from Article I of the Administrative Procedures. (70 §§ 3970.4, 3970.5; 74 § 85.7; 75 § 250.4)

2/16/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/22/99 Adopts Floor Substitute, Passes Bill - House (96-3)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

HB 1510 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/TEACHER PREPARATION**. Appropriates to various education entities including appropriations for the Common Education Classroom Technology Fund, scholarships to the Great Expectations Summer Institutes, implementing telecommunications curriculum statewide, Community Education Grants, Education Leadership Oklahoma, contracting with the Oklahoma Alliance for Geographic Education, and for the Commission for Teacher Preparation. (70 § 18-103.1)

2/3/99 Title struck

2/3/99 Amended and Passed - House (99-2)

2/9/99 Direct to Senate Calendar

HB 1515 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/TEACHER PREPARATION**. Provides for duties and compensation of employees of the Commission for Teacher Preparation; limits the salary of the director to \$58,200; provides budgetary limitations.

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Passed House (83-18)

2/22/99 Direct to Senate Calendar

HB 1523 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**. Appropriates to various health entities, including the University Hospitals Authority.

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Amended and Passed House (96-5)

2/22/99 Direct to Senate Calendar

HB 1528 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**. Appropriates to the University Hospitals Authority; limits the salary of the director.

2/8/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Amended and Passed House (92-9)

2/22/99 Direct to Senate Calendar

HB 1537 (Settle/Haney) - **ASBESTOS ABATEMENT**. Requires the Labor Department to submit annual reports detailing the amount per agency of all state, federal and local funds received for asbestos abatement, the projects completed per agency, the number of agency employees used in the programs and the projected needs for the next succeeding fiscal year; requires the State Regents and other appropriate state agencies involved in asbestos abatement to cooperate with the Labor Department to provide such information.

2/9/99 Title stricken

2/8/99 Amended and Passed House (95-5)

2/22/99 Direct to Senate Calendar

HB 1564 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/STATE REGENTS/PMTC/OCAST/TEACHER PREP/UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**. This is a general appropriations bill which appropriates to the State Regents, the Physician Manpower Training Commission, the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), and the University Hospitals Authority.

2/2/99 Second reading - Referred Direct to Calendar
2/2/99 General Order - House

HB 1566 (Settle/Haney) - **APPROPRIATIONS/STATE REGENTS**. Appropriates to the State Regents from the Constitutional Reserve Fund.

2/22/99 Title stricken

2/22/99 Amended and Bill and Emergency Passed - House (87-12)

HB 1588 (Sellers/Monson) - **HEALTH INSURANCE**. The committee substitute provides that plan years for purposes of State and Education Employees Group Insurance shall commence on Jan. 1 beginning in 2002; adjusts other state health insurance plan years accordingly; requires that the bid submission date be set no later than the third Friday of June of the previous year. (74 § 1306).

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1592 (Eddins) - **NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY/LITERACY**. Requires the establishment of a toll-free statewide literacy services referral system; deletes provisions for the creation of a literacy screening system; requires the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the State Department of Education, the Center for the Study of Literacy located at Northeastern State University, and the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority to conduct an awareness campaign to inform functionally illiterate adults about the availability of literacy services throughout the state and to recruit literacy volunteers; requires the State Department of Education to participate in the National Assessment of Adult Literacy; repeals section relating to the re-creation and purpose of the Literacy Initiatives Commission. (70 §§ 8001, 8003)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Title stricken

2/24/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (98-0)

HB 1599 (Staggs/Williams) - **SCHOOL TESTING**. Discontinues norm-referenced tests; requires the State Board of Education to perform test development, implementation, evaluation and correlation; provides for testing at the end of instruction at the secondary level; provides for remediation and test retakes; modifies reporting of test performances in the Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program; modifies testing provisions for disabled students to allow use of alternative assessments; removes language relating to identification of low performance on norm-referenced tests; requires the State Board of Education to implement a program of recognition and incentive, including financial awards subject to availability of funds; sets a standard for low performance on criterion-referenced tests; modifies the process for identification of low-performing and high-challenge schools; requires a comparison of state curriculum standards to National Assessment of Educational Progress standards; repeals a section relating to recommendations for test performance standards. The committee substitute deletes language providing for retaking the fifth-, eighth- and eleventh-grade competency tests and language relating to alternative assessments for disabled students. Language has been added to require that the results of certain criterion-referenced tests be published annually by the State Board for the entire state by district and by site. (70 §§ 1210.508, 1210.513, 1210.514, 1210.541)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/24/99 Title stricken

2/24/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (99-1)

HB 1622 (Askins) - **LONG-RANGE PLANS**. Requires state agencies to make five-year strategic plans for operations; requires the Joint Legislative Committee on Budget and Program Oversight and the Office

of State Finance to determine the elements required to be included in each agency's strategic plan; specifies requirements for the contents of such plans; requires the Governor, in cooperation with the Legislature, to establish achievement goals for each functional area of state government; authorizes the Governor and Legislature to compile a long-range strategic plan for state government using the state agency plans; requires that the state plan be sent to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor and Inspector and each member of the Legislature by the seventh working day of each regular legislative session; requires the Auditor and Inspector, when conducting a performance audit of a state agency, to consider in the evaluation the extent to which the agency conforms to the agency's strategic plan. (62 §§ 45.1/45.9)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

2/25/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (98-0)

HB 1644 (Coleman/Wilcoxson) - **CURRICULAR STANDARDS/REMEDIAL COURSES.** Requires that curricular standards established by the State Board of Education meet those required for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and be sufficient to ensure that every student at every high school have the opportunity to acquire all competencies to matriculate at a comprehensive graduate institution of The State System without the necessity of enrolling at the university in secondary-level courses; requires the board to adopt curricular standards for public school students in grades one through three that are to be implemented by the 2000-2001 school year and are focused on development of skills and attainment of competencies in the areas of reading, mathematics and spelling only; prohibits other skills or competencies from being required in grades one through three. The committee substitute requires the Board to adopt curricular standards for public school students in kindergarten through grade three that are to be implemented by the 2000-2001 school year and are focused on development of skills and attainment of competencies in the areas of reading, language arts and mathematics, and prohibits other skills or competencies from being required in kindergarten through grade three. (70 § 11-103.6)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1647 (Deutschendorf) - **INTERNET HOMEWORK TUTORING.** Requires the State Board of Education to solicit proposals for and, if funds are available, make grants to local boards of education for establishment of pilot projects to aid in development of Internet homework tutoring chat rooms; requires that proposals for Internet chat rooms create a mechanism to allow students to contact and interact with teachers or other professionals when they are not at school, when the student needs assistance with courses or homework; directs the Board to determine pilot project criteria and establish a process for consideration of proposals; requires that proposals for pilot projects be considered on a statewide competitive basis; requires the Board, by Jan. 1, 2000, subject to availability of funds, to develop and implement a school testing assistance Internet web page to help students prepare for tests required under the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act and to provide remediation assistance to students who do not perform satisfactorily on such tests; requires that the web page contain information, materials and example questions that may be used by teachers, students and parents to assist students in preparing for the required tests; requires the web page also to identify the most difficult concepts incorporated in the tests and provide specific information, materials and example questions that will assist students in those areas. (70 §§ 1210.556, 1210.557)

2/9/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1649 (Deutschendorf/Robinson) - **SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY/ONENET.** Creates an Oklahoma School Technology Fund, to be administered by the Department of Education; requires local exchange telecommunications service providers, beginning Sept. 1, to annually contribute \$2 per retail local exchange access line to the Oklahoma Telecommunications Technology Training Fund until the total con-

tributed by all providers equals \$12 million; requires that \$4 million of the \$12 million be distributed to the public schools to implement web-based software to create a system for comparing certain student, testing, teacher certification, curriculum and financial reporting data; \$5 million for upgrading OneNet to enable interactive video conferencing capabilities for every public school site in the state through the OneNet network; \$3 million to be distributed on a per-student basis to provide telecommunications end-line equipment to schools. (17 § 139.109)

2/9/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1650 (Deutschendorf/Robinson) - **SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY**. Creates the "Virtual Internet School in Oklahoma Network (VISION) Act"; establishes a Virtual Internet School in Oklahoma Network (VISION) Pilot Program for development of a virtual Internet school in the state to provide verifiable information on the advantages of web-based instructional programs; requires that the program also enable development and testing of procedures and standards so that implementation of a statewide virtual Internet school network will progress smoothly; designates the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA) as the coordinating agency for the pilot program; requires that at least six public school districts be selected to participate in the pilot program; specifies selection criteria; creates a Virtual Internet School Pilot Program Coordinating Committee to oversee the program. (70 §§ 1210.721/1210.725)

2/2/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Title stricken

2/22/99 Bill and Emergency Passed - House (77-22)

2/24/99 Second reading - Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

HB 1651 (Deutschendorf/Robinson) - **INTERNET PRIVACY**. Creates the "Consumer Internet Privacy Protection Act"; prohibits an interactive computer service from disclosing certain personally identifiable information without written consent; permits revocation of written consent; prohibits disclosure of falsified personally identifiable information; requires a computer service to provide a subscriber access to personally identifiable information; allows access to the identity of recipients of information; authorizes the Attorney General to investigate prohibited acts and to bring action pursuant to the Consumer Protection Act. The committee substitute changes the term "interactive" to "Internet" throughout the bill. Language has been added to allow disclosure of personally identifiable information to law enforcement officials pursuant to a lawful warrant or order, when necessary to protect the network security of the Internet computer service, to protect the network security of the Internet computer service, to protect against an imminent threat to the safety of others or when there is evidence of a crime or to prevent interference with another person's use of the services provided by the Internet service. (70 §§ 1210.721/1210.725)

2/11/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1659 (Newport) - **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**. Requires that American Sign Language be granted the same credit as a foreign language in public schools. (70 § 11-103.1)

2/16/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1681 (Seikel/Monson) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/ACCOUNTABILITY**. Requires a managed care plan, in any case in which the plan has no participating providers to provide a covered benefit, to arrange for a referral to a provider with necessary expertise and ensure that the covered person obtains the benefit at no greater cost than if the benefit were obtained from participating providers; requires that plans have a procedure by which covered persons with a life-threatening or a degenerative and disabling condition or disease may receive referral to a specialist with expertise in such treatment, who shall be responsible for and capable of coordinating the insured's primary and specialty care; requires a managed care plan that does not allow direct access to all specialists to implement a procedure by which a covered person

may receive a standing referral to a specialist; requires plans using a formulary for prescription drugs to include a written procedure whereby covered persons can obtain, without penalty, drugs not included in the formulary, under certain conditions; requires plans to establish procedures for governing termination of participating providers that provide for continuing treatment of a covered person by a terminated provider under certain conditions; requires plans to authorize participation of a covered person in a clinical trial if certain criteria are met; creates the "Managed Care External Review Act; provides for review of denial of reimbursement for or coverage of a medical treatment or service; requires the Division of Health Care Information of the State Department of Health to collect information concerning hospitals and related institutions quality and service effectiveness; requires the division to issue annual reports regarding hospitals and related institutions quality and service effectiveness. (36 §§ 6060.7/6060.9, 6550/6552)

2/9/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1745 (Frame) - HEALTH INSURANCE/ACCOUNTABILITY. Requires an insurer, if a claim is not paid within six months after receipt of proof of loss, to pay interest at the same rate as the average U.S. Treasury Bill rate of the preceding calendar year plus 4 percentage points; expands actions which constitute unfair claims practices to include requesting a refund of all or a portion of payment of a claim made to a claimant or health care provider more than 24 months after the payment is made. The amendment adds new law requiring health insurers, with certain state and federal exceptions, to which a health provider submits a clean claim to pay the claim within 30 calendar days of receipt; requires payment of a penalty equal to Bank of Oklahoma prime plus 2 percent per month or fraction of a month until the claim is paid. (36 §§ 1219, 1250.5)

2/2/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/25/99 Bill Amended and Passed - House (100-0)

HB 1748 (Blackburn) - HEALTH INSURANCE/BEHAVIORAL. Creates a 14-member Statewide Behavioral Health Task Force to develop a plan for cooperative and coordinated delivery of services by agencies responsible for services to persons needing behavioral health services, establish a central grants clearinghouse, investigate and make recommendations regarding equitable distribution of state and federal funds and submit proposed legislation; requires that reports be made to certain officials. (43A § 3-113)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1755 (Morgan) - STATE-OWNED VEHICLES. Requires that a toll-free telephone number that may be called to report negligent or reckless driving be painted on state-owned vehicles. (47 §§ 151, 156.3)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1759 (Benson/Taylor) - TUITION SCHOLARSHIP/CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION/SCHOOL TESTING/TEACHER PREPARATION/NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION/CHARTER SCHOOLS. Creates an Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Program to ensure that students who meet certain criteria, have completed a college preparatory curriculum upon graduation from high school and are intending to pursue studies at a State System higher education institution leading to an associate or baccalaureate degree are rewarded by having the first two years of tuition for enrollment at a State System institution paid for by the state; provides eligibility requirements; requires the State Regents to promulgate rules relating to maintenance of eligibility; states legislative intent that students graduating during the 1999-2000 school year be the first students eligible for benefits; changes the name of the certificate of distinction to the diploma of honor and modifies criteria to require four units in Eng-

lish, three each in mathematics, social studies, and science and one-half unit in the area of technology; requires that such units be college-preparatory courses; removes authorization for vo-tech courses to be included; directs the State Board of Education, beginning with students graduated in the 2002-2003 school year, to require all students, by the end of their senior year, to have earned four units in English and three units each in mathematics, social studies and sciences; requires that applicable vocational classes offered by comprehensive high school vo-tech programs qualify for the required academic units; requires remediation of students who do not perform satisfactorily on the mathematics portion of norm-referenced tests; requires that public school mathematics teachers in grades six, seven or eight be certified at the intermediate or secondary level in mathematics; states legislative intent to establish a continuing education program whereby teachers certified to teach mathematics may continue their education beyond initial licensing and certification; requires that the program pay up to \$100 per credit hour for a teacher to take higher education courses in mathematics; provides for an appropriation to the State Board of Education to award grants to school sites for significantly increased average test scores; prohibits the use of more than 50 percent of such award for teacher bonuses; increases the award for teachers who attain National Board certification from \$5,000 to \$10,000; modifies criteria for forgivable loans; requires schools to expand alternative education programs to middle school grades; requires certain schools to expand alternative education to elementary school grades; directs schools to expand the annual student needs assessment and plan to include certain students; states legislative intent to provide funding for elementary-level school counselors; authorizes the board of education to adopt a dress code; directs school districts to distribute economically disadvantaged pupil weight State Aid to certain schools; creates the "Education Choice Act"; provides for transfer of students; allows receiving districts to provide transportation to certain transferred students; creates the "Oklahoma Charter Schools Act"; provides for public schools established by contracts with local boards of education to provide learning that will improve student achievement; allows a charter school to consist of a new school, new schools or all or any portion of an existing school; prohibits private schools from applying; requires surety bonds; creates a Charter Schools Stimulus Fund; requires annual reports; repeals sections relating to student transfers. The committee substitute adds language limiting the number of credits for which general enrollment fees will be satisfied to not exceed 60 hours, with not more than 30 hours in any one year; provides that if an eligible applicant receives state or federal tuition aid, the Regents shall adjust the award to cover only the unpaid portion, if any; requires that students complete "core-curriculum courses" rather than "college-preparatory course"; deletes a section of new law which required that students have earned four units in English and three units each in math, social studies and science (however, this language is added elsewhere as an amendment to current law); adds language providing that the offering of remedial math classes shall be contingent upon the provision of appropriated funds; changes from 2004-2005 school year to 2003-2004 the year by which a teacher employed to teach math in middle school shall be required to obtain certification at the intermediate or secondary level in math; changes the "Education Choice Act" to the "Education Open Transfer Act" adds area vo-tech school districts to school districts with which a public school may contract under the act; provides that charter school employees are employees of the local school board and thereby entitled to employees' rights and privileges; deletes language relating to employment contracts with teachers; adds language requiring that instruction be provided to all persons between the ages of five and 21 years; requires that charter schools operate in accordance with the Educational Deregulation Act; authorizes charter school employees to participate in the Teachers' Retirement System; deletes language prohibiting termination of a school employee as a result of granting a school charter; authorizes school districts to retain up to 5 percent of funding for administrative purposes; deletes a section of new law which would have created the Charter Schools Stimulus Fund. (70 §§ 2610/2613)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1767 (Ervin/Robinson) - **TELEMEDICINE**. This is a shell bill relating to telemedicine authority of the Department of Health. (63 § 1-2702)

2/17/99 Title stricken

2/17/99 Senate Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1771 (Ervin/Henry) - **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**. Changes the name of the Special Indemnity Fund to the Multiple Injury Trust Fund; requires the Board of managers of the State Insurance Fund to administer the Multiple Injury Trust Fund; authorizes the Board to transfer funds to the Multiple Injury Trust Fund to eliminate delinquent awards; requires reimbursement of insurance fund; makes the State Fund liable for premium taxes as if it were operating as a private carrier; requires that premium taxes be paid out of the fund's excess reserves and not passed on to policy holders so long as the fund is operating within the accepted industry standard of three-to-one premium-to-surplus ratio; provides that Multiple Injury Trust Fund awards shall accrue from the file date of the court order finding the claimant to be permanently and totally disabled; provides that a reopening of any prior injury claim other than the last employer injury claim shall not give a claimant the right to additional Multiple Injury Trust Fund benefits; provides that awards not claimed within two years of the date on which the award first become available shall be returned to the trust fund; requires that the premium tax on premiums collected by the State Insurance Fund be paid by the 30th day of the month of receipt to the state treasurer; requires that 0.25 percent of such funds be credited to the Attorney General for permanent total disability or permanent partial disability awards paid out or payable for the month, to be deposited in the Attorney General's Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit Revolving Fund, 0.25 percent to the Department of Vocational and Technical Education and all other monies to the trust fund so long as the fund has reserves of not more than \$5 million; requires that remaining premium tax monies be deposited in the General Revenue Fund, once the trust fund has reserves of more than \$5 million. (36 § 631)

2/17/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1773 (Stites) - **RETIREMENT**. Provides for an "Oklahoma Governmental Defined Benefit Plan Modification Act of 1999".

2/8/99 House Committee - Do Pass

HB 1806 (Staggs/Wilcoxson) - **TEACHER PREPARATION**. Deletes a requirement that after completing 90 credit hours each teacher candidate shall be eligible to take a competency examination; repeals a section relating to course requirements on the exceptional child. (70 §§ 6-128, 6-187)

2/17/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/23/99 House Amended and Passed Bill (99-0)

HB 1809 (Plunk) - **CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS**. Prohibits chiropractic physicians from violating provisions of the Unfair Claims Settlement Act or assisting an insurer in violating the act; increases the scholarship amounts per student that may be awarded under the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program. (59 §§ 161.12, 161.16)

2/10/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/23/99 Bill Passed - House (96-0)

HB 1822 (Liotta) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/BENEFITS COMMITTEE**. Increases membership of the Joint Liaison Committee on State and Education Employees Group Insurance Benefits; requires the committee to meet at least quarterly; expands the duties of the committee. The committee substitute removes language that would have required the committee to examine management issues of the state health insurance benefit plan and make recommendations on the feasibility of privatizing ownership or administration of the state plan. (74 § 1306)

2/18/99 House Committee - Committee Substitute Do Pass

HB 1826 (Boyd) - **HEALTH INSURANCE/EXTERNAL REVIEW**. Creates the "Oklahoma Managed Care External Review Act"; provides that any person insured with managed care shall have the right to an external review by an independent review organization of a decision under a health benefit plan; entitles an insured person to a certain amount toward the cost of external review; requires the State Board of Health to promulgate rules for the certification of independent review organizations. (36 § 6471/6480)

2/9/99 House Committee - Do Pass

2/22/99 Title stricken

2/22/99 Bill Amended and Passed - Senate (97-1)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

HJR 1016 (Settle/Haney) - **BORROWING MONEY**. Proposed constitutional amendment clarifying language relating to the borrowing of money on behalf of the state, county, or other political subdivision.

2/2/99 Second reading - Referred Direct to Calendar

2/2/99 General Order - House

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