

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 688

By: Hall

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to ad valorem tax; amending 68 O.S. 2021, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 390, O.S.L. 2022 (68 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 2902), which relates to the exemption from ad valorem tax for manufacturing facilities; providing exception to payroll requirements for certain applications; updating statutory language; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2021, Section 2902, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 390, O.S.L. 2022 (68 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 2902), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2902. A. Except as otherwise provided by subsection H of Section 3658 of this title pursuant to which the exemption authorized by this section may not be claimed, a qualifying manufacturing concern, as defined by Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution, and as further defined herein, shall be exempt from the levy of any ad valorem taxes upon new, expanded or acquired manufacturing facilities including facilities engaged in research and development, for a period of five (5) years. The

1 provisions of Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution  
2 requiring an existing facility to have been unoccupied for a period  
3 of twelve (12) months prior to acquisition shall be construed as a  
4 qualification for a facility to initially receive an exemption, and  
5 shall not be deemed to be a qualification for that facility to  
6 continue to receive an exemption in each of the four (4) years  
7 following the initial year for which the exemption was granted.  
8 Such facilities are hereby classified for the purposes of taxation  
9 as provided in Section 22 of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution.

10 B. For purposes of this section, the following definitions  
11 shall apply:

12 1. "Manufacturing facilities" means facilities engaged in the  
13 mechanical or chemical transformation of materials or substances  
14 into new products and except as provided by paragraph 6 of  
15 subsection C of this section shall include:

- 16 a. establishments which have received a manufacturer  
17 exemption permit pursuant to the provisions of Section  
18 1359.2 of this title,
- 19 b. facilities including repair and replacement parts,  
20 primarily engaged in aircraft repair, building and  
21 rebuilding whether or not on a factory basis,
- 22 c. establishments primarily engaged in computer services  
23 and data processing as defined under Industrial Group  
24 Numbers 5112 and 5415, and U.S. Industry Number 334611

1 and 519130 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, and  
2 which derive at least fifty percent (50%) of their  
3 annual gross revenues from the sale of a product or  
4 service to an out-of-state buyer or consumer, and as  
5 defined under Industrial Group Number 5182 of the  
6 NAICS Manual, latest revision, which derive at least  
7 eighty percent (80%) of their annual gross revenues  
8 from the sale of a product or service to an out-of-  
9 state buyer or consumer. Eligibility as a  
10 manufacturing facility pursuant to this subparagraph  
11 shall be established, subject to review by the  
12 Oklahoma Tax Commission, by annually filing an  
13 affidavit with the Tax Commission stating that the  
14 facility so qualifies and such other information as  
15 required by the Tax Commission. For purposes of  
16 determining whether annual gross revenues are derived  
17 from sales to out-of-state buyers, all sales to the  
18 federal government shall be considered to be an out-  
19 of-state buyer,

- 20 d. facilities that the investment cost of the  
21 construction, acquisition or expansion is Five Hundred  
22 Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) or more with respect to  
23 assets placed into service during calendar year 2022.  
24 For subsequent calendar years, the investment required

1 shall be increased annually by a percentage equal to  
2 the previous year's increase in the Consumer Price  
3 Index-All Urban Consumers ("CPI-U") and such adjusted  
4 amount shall be the required investment cost in order  
5 to qualify for the exemption authorized by this  
6 section. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall  
7 determine the amount of the increase, if any, on  
8 January 1 of each year. The Oklahoma Tax Commission  
9 shall publish on its website at least annually the  
10 adjusted dollar amount in order to qualify for the  
11 exemption authorized by this section and shall include  
12 the adjusted dollar amount in any of its relevant  
13 forms or publications with respect to the exemption.  
14 Provided, "investment cost" shall not include the cost  
15 of direct replacement, refurbishment, repair or  
16 maintenance of existing machinery or equipment, except  
17 that ~~"investment cost"~~ investment cost shall include  
18 capital expenditures for direct replacement,  
19 refurbishment, repair or maintenance of existing  
20 machinery or equipment that qualifies for depreciation  
21 and/or amortization pursuant to the Internal Revenue  
22 Code of 1986, as amended, and such expenditures shall  
23 be eligible as a part of an ~~"expansion"~~ expansion that  
24 otherwise qualifies under this section,

1 e. establishments primarily engaged in distribution as  
2 defined under Industry Numbers 49311, 49312, 49313 and  
3 49319 and Industry Sector Number 42 of the NAICS  
4 Manual, latest revision, and which meet the following  
5 qualifications:

- 6 (1) construction with an initial capital investment  
7 of at least Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00),  
8 (2) employment of at least one hundred (100) full-  
9 time-equivalent employees, as certified by the  
10 Oklahoma Employment Security Commission,  
11 (3) payment of wages or salaries to its employees at  
12 a wage which equals or exceeds the average wage  
13 requirements in the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program  
14 Act for the year in which the real property was  
15 placed into service, and  
16 (4) commencement of construction on or after November  
17 1, 2007, with construction to be completed within  
18 three (3) years from the date of the commencement  
19 of construction,

20 f. facilities engaged in the manufacturing, compounding,  
21 processing or fabrication of materials into articles  
22 of tangible personal property according to the special  
23 order of a customer (custom order manufacturing) by  
24 manufacturers classified as operating in North  
25

American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

Sectors 32 and 33, but does not include such custom order manufacturing by manufacturers classified in other NAICS code sectors, and

- g. with respect to any entity making an application for the exemption authorized by this section on or after January 1, 2023, the establishment making application for exempt treatment of real or personal property acquired or improved beginning January 1, 2022, and for any calendar year thereafter, the entity shall be required to pay new direct jobs, as defined by Section 3603 of this title for purposes of the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act, an average annualized wage which equals or exceeds the average wage requirement in the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act for the year in which the real or personal property was placed into service. The Oklahoma Tax Commission may request verification from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce that an establishment seeking an exemption for real or personal property pays an average annualized wage that equals or exceeds the average wage requirement in effect for the year in which the real or personal property was placed into service. For purposes of this subparagraph, it shall not be necessary for the

1 establishment to qualify for incentive payments  
2 pursuant to the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act, but  
3 the establishment shall be subject to the wage  
4 requirements of the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act  
5 with respect to new direct jobs in order to qualify  
6 for the exempt treatment authorized by this section.

7 Eligibility as a manufacturing facility pursuant to this  
8 subparagraph shall be established, subject to review by the Tax  
9 Commission, by annually filing an affidavit with the Tax Commission  
10 stating that the facility so qualifies and containing such other  
11 information as required by the Tax Commission.

12 Provided, eating and drinking places, as well as other retail  
13 establishments, shall not qualify as manufacturing facilities for  
14 purposes of this section, nor shall centrally assessed properties.

15 Eligibility as a manufacturing facility pursuant to this  
16 subparagraph shall be established, subject to review by the Tax  
17 Commission, by annually filing an application with the Tax  
18 Commission stating that the facility so qualifies and containing  
19 such other information as required by the Tax Commission;

20 2. "Facility" and "facilities", except as otherwise provided by  
21 this section, means and includes the land, buildings, structures and  
22 improvements used directly and exclusively in the manufacturing  
23 process. Effective January 1, 2022, and for each calendar year  
24 thereafter, for establishments which have received a manufacturer

1 exemption permit pursuant to the provisions of Section 1359.2 of  
2 this title, or facilities engaged in manufacturing activities  
3 defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Nos. 311111  
4 through 339999, inclusive, but for no other establishments, facility  
5 and facilities means and includes the land, buildings, structures,  
6 improvements, machinery, fixtures, equipment and other personal  
7 property used directly and exclusively in the manufacturing process;  
8 and

9 3. "Research and development" means activities directly related  
10 to and conducted for the purpose of discovering, enhancing,  
11 increasing or improving future or existing products or processes or  
12 productivity.

13 C. The following provisions shall apply:

14 1. A manufacturing concern shall be entitled to the exemption  
15 herein provided for each new manufacturing facility constructed,  
16 each existing manufacturing facility acquired and the expansion of  
17 existing manufacturing facilities on the same site, as such terms  
18 are defined by Section 6B of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution  
19 and by this section;

20 2. No manufacturing concern shall receive more than one five-  
21 year exemption for any one manufacturing facility unless the  
22 expansion which qualifies the manufacturing facility for an  
23 additional five-year exemption meets the requirements of paragraph 4  
24



1 of this subsection and the employment level established for any  
2 previous exemption is maintained;

3 3. Any exemption as to the expansion of an existing  
4 manufacturing facility shall be limited to the increase in ad  
5 valorem taxes directly attributable to the expansion;

6 4. All initial applications for any exemption for a new,  
7 acquired or expanded manufacturing facility shall be granted only  
8 if:

- 9 a. there is a net increase in annualized base payroll  
10 over the initial payroll of at least Two Hundred Fifty  
11 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) if the facility is  
12 located in a county with a population of fewer than  
13 seventy-five thousand (75,000), according to the most  
14 recent Federal Decennial Census, while maintaining or  
15 increasing base payroll in subsequent years, or at  
16 least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) if the  
17 facility is located in a county with a population of  
18 seventy-five thousand (75,000) or more, according to  
19 the most recent Federal Decennial Census, while  
20 maintaining or increasing base payroll in subsequent  
21 years; provided, the payroll requirement of this  
22 subparagraph shall be waived for claims for exemptions  
23 including claims previously denied or on appeal on  
24 March 3, 2010, for all initial applications for

1 exemption filed on or after January 1, 2004, and on or  
2 before March 31, 2009, and all subsequent annual  
3 exemption applications filed related to the initial  
4 application for exemption, for an applicant, if the  
5 facility has been located in Oklahoma for at least  
6 fifteen (15) years engaged in marine engine  
7 manufacturing as defined under U.S. Industry Number  
8 333618 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, and has  
9 maintained an average employment of five hundred (500)  
10 or more full-time-equivalent employees over a ten-year  
11 period. Any applicant that qualifies for the payroll  
12 requirement waiver as outlined in the previous  
13 sentence and subsequently closes its Oklahoma  
14 manufacturing plant prior to January 1, 2012, may be  
15 disqualified for exemption and subject to recapture.  
16 For an applicant engaged in paperboard manufacturing  
17 as defined under U.S. Industry Number 322130 of the  
18 NAICS Manual, latest revision, union master payouts  
19 paid by the buyer of the facility to specified  
20 individuals employed by the facility at the time of  
21 purchase, as specified under the purchase agreement,  
22 shall be excluded from payroll for purposes of this  
23 section.  
24

1 In order to provide certainty with respect to  
2 investments in manufacturing facilities pertaining to  
3 all initial applications for exemption filed on or  
4 after January 1, 2016, the following definitions shall  
5 apply:

6 (1) "base payroll" shall mean total payroll adjusted  
7 for any nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of stock  
8 option or stock rights and other nonrecurring,  
9 extraordinary items included in total payroll,  
10 and

11 (2) "initial payroll" shall mean base payroll for the  
12 year immediately preceding the initial  
13 construction, acquisition or expansion.

14 The Tax Commission shall verify payroll  
15 information through the Oklahoma Employment  
16 Security Commission by using reports from the  
17 Oklahoma Employment Security Commission for the  
18 calendar year immediately preceding the year for  
19 which initial application is made for base-line  
20 payroll, which must be maintained or increased  
21 for each subsequent year; provided, a  
22 manufacturing facility shall have the option of  
23 excluding from its payroll, for purposes of this  
24 section:

- 1                   i.    payments to sole proprietors, members  
2                   of a partnership, members of a limited  
3                   liability company who own at least ten  
4                   percent (10%) of the capital of the  
5                   limited liability company or  
6                   stockholder-employees of a corporation  
7                   who own at least ten percent (10%) of  
8                   the stock in the corporation, and  
9                   ii.   any nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of  
10                  stock option or stock rights or other  
11                  nonrecurring, extraordinary items  
12                  included in total payroll numbers as  
13                  reported by the Oklahoma Employment  
14                  Security Commission. A manufacturing  
15                  facility electing either option shall  
16                  indicate such election upon its  
17                  application for an exemption under this  
18                  section. Any manufacturing facility  
19                  electing either option shall submit  
20                  such information as the Tax Commission  
21                  may require in order to verify payroll  
22                  information. Payroll information  
23                  submitted pursuant to the provisions of  
24                  this paragraph shall be submitted to

1 the Tax Commission and shall be subject  
2 to the provisions of Section 205 of  
3 this title, and

4 b. the facility offers, or will offer within one hundred  
5 eighty (180) days of the date of employment, a basic  
6 health benefits plan to the full-time-equivalent  
7 employees of the facility, which is determined by the  
8 Oklahoma Department of Commerce to consist of the  
9 elements specified in subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of  
10 subsection A of Section 3603 of this title or elements  
11 substantially equivalent thereto.

12 For purposes of this section, calculation of the amount of  
13 increased base payroll shall be measured from the start of initial  
14 construction or expansion to the completion of such construction or  
15 expansion or for three (3) years from the start of initial  
16 construction or expansion, whichever occurs first. The amount of  
17 increased base payroll shall include payroll for full-time-  
18 equivalent employees in this state who are employed by an entity  
19 other than the facility which has previously or is currently  
20 qualified to receive an exemption pursuant to the provisions of this  
21 section and who are leased or otherwise provided to the facility, if  
22 such employment did not exist in this state prior to the start of  
23 initial construction or expansion of the facility. The  
24 manufacturing concern shall submit an affidavit to the Tax

Commission, signed by an officer, stating that the construction, acquisition or expansion of the facility will result in a net increase in the annualized base payroll as required by this paragraph and that full-time-equivalent employees of the facility are or will be offered a basic health benefits plan as required by this paragraph. If, after the completion of such construction or expansion or after three (3) years from the start of initial construction or expansion, whichever occurs first, the construction, acquisition or expansion has not resulted in a net increase in the amount of annualized base payroll, if required, or any other qualification specified in this paragraph has not been met, the manufacturing concern shall pay an amount equal to the amount of any exemption granted including penalties and interest thereon, to the Tax Commission for deposit to the Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund;

5. Except as otherwise provided by this paragraph, any new, acquired or expanded computer data processing, data preparation or information processing services provider classified in U.S. Industry Number 518210 of the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Manual, 2017 revision, may apply for exemptions under this section for each year in which new, acquired, or expanded capital improvements to the facility are made for assets placed in service not later than December 31, 2021, if:

- a. there is a net increase in annualized payroll of the applicant at any facility or facilities of the

1 applicant in this state of at least Two Hundred Fifty  
2 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), which is attributable  
3 to the capital improvements, or a net increase of  
4 Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000.00) or more in  
5 capital improvements, while maintaining or increasing  
6 payroll at the facility or facilities in this state  
7 which are included in the application, and

- 8 b. the facility offers, or will offer within one hundred  
9 eighty (180) days of the date of employment of new  
10 employees attributable to the capital improvements, a  
11 basic health benefits plan to the full-time-equivalent  
12 employees of the facility, which is determined by the  
13 Oklahoma Department of Commerce to consist of the  
14 elements specified in subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of  
15 subsection A of Section 3603 of this title or elements  
16 substantially equivalent thereto.

17 An establishment described by this paragraph, the primary  
18 business activity of which is described by Industry No. 518210 of  
19 the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Manual,  
20 2017 revision, that has applied for and been granted an exemption  
21 for personal property at any time within five (5) years prior to  
22 November 1, 2021, may apply for exemptions for items of eligible  
23 personal property to be located within improvements to real property  
24 and such real property and improvements having been exempt from ad

1 valorem taxation prior to November 1, 2021, pursuant to the  
2 provisions of this section if such personal property is placed in  
3 service not later than December 31, 2036. No additional personal  
4 property of such establishment placed in service after such date  
5 shall qualify for the exempt treatment otherwise authorized pursuant  
6 to this paragraph;

7 6. Effective January 1, 2017, an entity engaged in electric  
8 power generation by means of wind, as described by the North  
9 American Industry Classification System, No. 221119, shall not be  
10 defined as a qualifying manufacturing concern for purposes of the  
11 exemption otherwise authorized pursuant to Section 6B of Article X  
12 of the Oklahoma Constitution or qualify as a ~~"manufacturing~~  
13 ~~facility"~~ manufacturing facility as defined in this section. No  
14 initial application for exemption shall be filed by or accepted from  
15 an entity engaged in electric power generation by means of wind on  
16 or after January 1, 2018;

17 7. An entity or applicant engaged in an industry as defined  
18 under U.S. Industry Number 324110 of the NAICS Manual, latest  
19 revision, which has applied for or been granted an exemption for a  
20 time period which began on or after calendar year 2012 and before  
21 calendar year 2016 but which did not meet the payroll requirements  
22 of subparagraph a of paragraph 4 of this subsection because of  
23 nonrecurring bonuses, exercise of stock option or stock rights or  
24 other nonrecurring, extraordinary items included in total payroll in  
25



1 the previous year, shall be allowed an exemption, beginning with  
2 calendar year 2016, for the number of years including the calendar  
3 year for which the exemption was denied, remaining in the entity's  
4 five-year exemption period, provided such entity attains or  
5 increases payroll at or above the initial or base payroll  
6 established for the exemption;

7 8. A facility engaged in manufacturing defined under U.S.  
8 Industry Number 327310 of the NAICS Manual shall have the payroll  
9 requirements of paragraph 4 of this subsection waived for tax year  
10 2021, which is based in part on the 2020 calendar year payroll  
11 reported to the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, and may  
12 continue to receive the exemption for the five-year period provided  
13 in this section only if all other requirements of this section are  
14 met; and

15 9. A facility engaged in manufacturing which otherwise  
16 qualifies for the exemption or exemptions pursuant to the provisions  
17 of this section shall have the payroll requirements of paragraph 4  
18 of this subsection waived for tax year 2021, which is based in part  
19 on the 2020 calendar year payroll reported to the Oklahoma  
20 Employment Security Commission, and for tax year 2022, which is  
21 based in part on the 2021 calendar year payroll reported to the  
22 Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, and may continue to receive  
23 the exemption for the five-year period provided in this section only  
24 if all other requirements of this section are met. Provided, a

facility engaged in manufacturing as defined under Industrial Group Number 3364 of the NAICS Manual, latest revision, which otherwise qualifies to continue to receive the exemption for the five-year period provided in this section shall have the payroll requirements of paragraph 4 of this subsection waived for the five-year exemption period of those initial exemption applications filed after January 1, 2020, and before March 16, 2021.

D. 1. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection, the five-year period of exemption from ad valorem taxes for any qualifying manufacturing facility property shall begin on January 1 following the initial qualifying use of the property in the manufacturing process.

2. The five-year period of exemption from ad valorem taxes for any qualifying manufacturing facility, as specified in subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph, which is located within a tax incentive district created pursuant to the Local Development Act by a county having a population of at least five hundred thousand (500,000), according to the most recent Federal Decennial Census, shall begin on January 1 following the expiration or termination of the ad valorem exemption, abatement, or other incentive provided through the tax incentive district. Facilities qualifying pursuant to this subsection shall include:

- a. a manufacturing facility as defined in subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section, and

1           b.    an establishment primarily engaged in distribution as  
2                defined under Industry Number 49311 of the North  
3                American Industry Classification System for which the  
4                initial capital investment was at least One Hundred  
5                Eighty Million Dollars (\$180,000,000.00); provided,  
6                that the qualifying job creation and depreciable  
7                property investment occurred prior to calendar year  
8                2017 but not earlier than calendar year 2013.

9           E.   Any person, firm or corporation claiming the exemption  
10          herein provided for shall file each year for which exemption is  
11          claimed, an application therefor with the county assessor of the  
12          county in which the new, expanded or acquired facility is located.  
13          The application shall be on a form or forms prescribed by the Tax  
14          Commission, and shall be filed on or before March 15, except as  
15          provided in Section 2902.1 of this title, of each year in which the  
16          facility desires to take the exemption or within thirty (30) days  
17          from and after receipt by such person, firm or corporation of notice  
18          of valuation increase, whichever is later. In a case where  
19          completion of the facility or facilities will occur after January 1  
20          of a given year, a facility may apply to claim the ad valorem tax  
21          exemption for that year. If such facility is found to be qualified  
22          for exemption, the ad valorem tax exemption provided for herein  
23          shall be granted for that entire year and shall apply to the ad  
24          valorem valuation as of January 1 of that given year. For

1 applicants who qualify under the provisions of subparagraph b of  
2 paragraph 1 of subsection B of this section, the application shall  
3 include a copy of the affidavit and any other information required  
4 to be filed with the Tax Commission.

5 F. The application shall be examined by the county assessor and  
6 approved or rejected in the same manner as provided by law for  
7 approval or rejection of claims for homestead exemptions. The  
8 taxpayer shall have the same right of review by and appeal from the  
9 county board of equalization, in the same manner and subject to the  
10 same requirements as provided by law for review and appeals  
11 concerning homestead exemption claims. Approved applications shall  
12 be filed by the county assessor with the Tax Commission no later  
13 than June 15, except as provided in Section 2902.1 of this title, of  
14 the year in which the facility desires to take the exemption.  
15 Incomplete applications and applications filed after June 15 will be  
16 declared null and void by the Tax Commission. In the event that a  
17 taxpayer qualified to receive an exemption pursuant to the  
18 provisions of this section shall make payment of ad valorem taxes in  
19 excess of the amount due, the county treasurer shall have the  
20 authority to credit the taxpayer's real or personal property tax  
21 overpayment against current taxes due. The county treasurer may  
22 establish a schedule of up to five (5) years of credit to resolve  
23 the overpayment.  
24  
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1 G. Nothing herein shall in any manner affect, alter or impair  
2 any law relating to the assessment of property, and all property,  
3 real or personal, which may be entitled to exemption hereunder shall  
4 be valued and assessed as is other like property and as provided by  
5 law. The valuation and assessment of property for which an  
6 exemption is granted hereunder shall be performed by the Tax  
7 Commission using one or more of the cost, income and expense and  
8 sales comparison approaches to estimate fair cash value in  
9 accordance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal  
10 Practice.

11 H. The Tax Commission shall have the authority and duty to  
12 prescribe forms and to promulgate rules as may be necessary to carry  
13 out and administer the terms and provisions of this section.

14 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
15 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
16 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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