

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 HOUSE BILL 2285

By: Hilbert of the House

5 and

6 **Hall** of the Senate

7

8 AS INTRODUCED

9 An Act relating to roads and bridges; creating the
10 Evacuation Vehicle Access Corridor Act; creating the
11 Evacuation Vehicle Access Corridor Revolving Fund;
12 establishing fund at the Oklahoma Department of
13 Transportation; establishing revolving fund
14 characteristics; deeming funds appropriated;
15 requiring and limiting certain budgeting and
16 expenditure; creating the Evacuation Vehicle Access
17 Corridor Grant Program; authorizing certain
18 references; declaring purpose; establishing
19 procedures and criteria for grant awards; defining
20 terms; providing for codification; providing an
21 effective date, and declaring an emergency.

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

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

24 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 508 of Title 69, unless there is
25 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

26 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Evacuation
27 Vehicle Access Corridor Act.

28 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
29 fund for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to be designated

1 the "Evacuation Vehicle Access Corridor Revolving Fund" or "EVAC
2 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal
3 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies directed for
4 deposit to the fund by law. All monies accruing to the credit of
5 said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended
6 by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation in accordance with the
7 provisions provided in Section C of this act. Expenditures from
8 said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer
9 against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the
10 Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and
11 payment.

12 C. 1. There is hereby established the Evacuation Vehicle
13 Access Corridor Grant Program, which may also be cited as the "EVAC
14 Grant Program";

15 2. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation shall establish
16 and administer the EVAC Grant Program to support the state purpose
17 of ensuring the health and safety of the residents of Oklahoma
18 living in geographically landlock basins by creating evacuation
19 corridors. Such program shall embody the following procedures and
20 criteria:

1 b. to be eligible for a grant from the EVAC Grant
2 Program, a county must demonstrate a material need to
3 construct a county road in a qualified area;
4 c. grant amounts awarded under the provisions of this act
5 shall not exceed the cumulative total of funds
6 directed for deposit to the EVAC Fund created in
7 subsection B of this act.

8 D. As used in the Evacuation Vehicle Access Corridor Act:

9 1. "Landlocked" means almost or entirely surrounded by land,
10 which lacks practical entry and egress by motor vehicles;

11 2. "Qualified area" means a landlocked basin in this state with
12 no fewer than two thousand (2,000) residents, and that has one or
13 fewer roads of entry or egress maintained by a state, county, town
14 or municipality road system or systems.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

16 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
17 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
18 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
19 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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21 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
22 02/27/2025 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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