

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 530

6 By: Hines of the Senate

7 and

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10 Miller and **Manger** of the
11 House

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16 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Veterans Commission;
17 authorizing the establishment of the State of
18 Oklahoma Veterans Foundation; stating purpose of
19 Foundation; allowing Foundation to receive
20 contributions; directing incorporation of Foundation;
21 providing authority for designation of initial
22 membership and election of the board of directors;
23 prohibiting certain board members from voting on
24 certain matters; prohibiting certain preferential
25 consideration; requiring financial records to be
26 available for audit; providing certain exceptions;
27 providing for codification; and declaring an
28 emergency.

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

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

32 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 441 of Title 72, unless there is
33 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

34 A. There is hereby authorized the establishment by the Oklahoma
35 Veterans Commission of a private, not-for-profit, charitable

1 organization to be known as the "State of Oklahoma Veterans
2 Foundation". The Foundation shall be for the purpose of soliciting,
3 accepting, receiving, holding, investing, managing, utilizing, and
4 expending contributions of money, real or personal property, and
5 services, for use in support of the activities, services,
6 facilities, properties, and programs of the Commission and the
7 Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, as they support veterans
8 who are residents of this state. Such contributions shall be
9 supplementary to any state funding received by the Department and
10 shall provide a means to further assist the needs of the veteran
11 community in this state.

12 B. The Foundation created pursuant to this act shall not be a
13 public body and may receive contributions from any public or private
14 source to carry out the purposes of this act including, but not
15 limited to, gifts or grants from private individuals, companies,
16 foundations, corporations, and others in the private and public
17 sectors.

18 C. Upon incorporation, the Foundation shall operate exclusively
19 for charitable and educational purposes and shall secure tax-exempt
20 status under the appropriate provision of Sections 501(c) and 509(a)
21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, 26 U.S.C.,
22 Sections 501(c) and 509(a).

23 D. The Department shall be authorized to create the board of
24 the Foundation. The commissioners of the Oklahoma Veterans

1 Commission shall determine the initial members of the Foundation and
2 elect the board of directors of the Foundation. No employee of the
3 Department shall be a voting member of the board of directors of the
4 Foundation. Any voting member of the board of directors of the
5 Foundation who may have a financial interest in an action under
6 consideration by the Foundation shall abstain from voting on any
7 such matter.

8 E. No administrator of the Department shall provide any
9 preferential consideration to a potential resident of a State
10 Veterans Home in the application or admission process due to any
11 prior or pledged contribution to the Foundation.

12 F. The Foundation shall make all of its financial records and
13 documents including work papers, except for the names of donors and
14 other privileged or confidential materials, available to auditors
15 who are performing audits of the Department.

16 SECTION 2. 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 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OVERSIGHT, dated 04/16/2025 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.
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