

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 121 By: Burns

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to state parks; transferring the Hugo
8 Lake Park to the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation
9 Department; authorizing Department to establish funds
10 and accounts for the servicing of fiscal operations
11 of the state park; exempting the Department from
12 certain tort claims arising or accruing prior to
certain date; providing for succession related to
contraction rights, rents, obligations, and
responsibilities; providing for promulgation of rules
for the transfer; providing for codification; and
providing an effective date.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2229.1C of Title 74, unless
18 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. By January 1, 2026, all properties held in fee title, lease
20 or otherwise, including interests in land, real estate options, or
21 real estate contracts designated for Hugo Lake Park are hereby
22 transferred to the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department.

1 B. Appropriate conveyances and other documents shall be
2 executed by January 1, 2026, to effectuate the transfer of Hugo Lake
3 Park.

4 C. The Department shall establish appropriate funds and
5 accounts, including a revolving fund in the Office of Management and
6 Enterprise Services, for servicing the fiscal operations of the
7 park. Such funds and accounts shall be subject to the direct
8 supervision, management, and control of the Department.

9 D. The Department shall not be responsible for any claims
10 arising under The Governmental Tort Claims Act accrued prior to
11 January 1, 2026, claims arising from any other actions accrued prior
12 to January 1, 2026, or tort claims arising prior to January 1, 2026,
13 for which no claim has accrued upon the date of transfer. The
14 Department shall not be responsible for any claims arising out of
15 construction begun before January 1, 2026, at Hugo Lake Park.

16 E. 1. The Department shall succeed to any contractual rights
17 and responsibilities of the previous operators of Hugo Lake Park,
18 including but not limited to:

19 a. any responsibilities for payment of rents or other
20 obligations, and

21 b. any responsibilities related to contractual agreements
22 with nonprofit organizations.

23 2. The Department may enter into one or more contracts for
24 management services of the state park. The duties and benefits

arising under any contract for management services of any part of the previous operators that is in effect on January 1, 2026, shall be assigned to the Department. The contract may be renewable at the option of the Department but not to exceed a cumulative period of fifty (50) years.

F. The Department shall promulgate the rules necessary for the transfer of property from Hugo Lake Park to the Oklahoma state park system.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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