

1                           **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**  
2                           April 15, 2025

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1664

By: Cantrell of the House

5                           and  
6                           Alvord of the Senate  
7

8 An Act relating to county commissioners; amending 19  
9 O.S. 2021, Section 326, which relates to meetings;  
10 allowing county commissioners to participate in  
11 conferences, trainings, and events under certain  
12 circumstances; authorizing county commissioners to  
13 participate in legislative meetings in certain  
14 circumstances; authorizing county commissioners to  
15 discuss budgetary matters in certain circumstances;  
16 amending 56 O.S. 2021, Section 625.2, which relates  
17 to the Statewide Independent Living Council; allowing  
18 the Council to hold meetings via videoconferencing;  
19 providing procedures; permitting the Council to  
20 conduct executive sessions by videoconference under  
21 certain circumstances; and declaring an emergency.  
22

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

24                           SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       19 O.S. 2021, Section 326, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26                           Section 326. A. In addition to the special sessions for  
27 equalizing assessments, and all other special sessions now provided  
28 by law, the county commissioners shall meet and hold sessions for  
29 the transaction of business in the county courthouse, at the county  
30 seat, on or before the first Monday of each month, and may remain in

1 session as long as the public business may require, and the passing  
2 upon, allowing or rejecting of bills against the county shall be  
3 taken up and passed upon by the board in the order in which the  
4 claims have been filed, and in which order such claims must be  
5 entered upon the calendar, except salary, wage and compensation  
6 claims of officers and deputies and employees, which salary, wage  
7 and compensation claims may be considered and paid, on or after the  
8 termination of the service pay period; provided, that such claims by  
9 subordinate deputies and employees be first approved by the officer  
10 having charge of the office or department. The board of county  
11 commissioners may recess or adjourn its meetings within the session,  
12 either from time to time or from day to day, or on call of the  
13 chairman; but, if such board does not sooner adjourn its session for  
14 any month, such session shall terminate and be adjourned by  
15 operation of law on the last business day of such month. If the  
16 board shall have adjourned its session before the last business day  
17 of any month, the county clerk shall have power to call special  
18 sessions when the best interests of the county demand it, upon  
19 giving five (5) days' notice of the time and object of calling the  
20 commissioners together, by posting up notices in three public places  
21 in the county, or by publication in some newspaper of general  
22 circulation in the county; provided, that in the case of a vacancy  
23 in the office of county clerk, the ~~chairman~~ chair of the board shall  
24

1 have power to call a special session for the purpose of filling such  
2 vacancy.

3       B. The board of county commissioners may meet at times and in  
4 places within the county other than the county courthouse if it is  
5 determined that such meetings are beneficial to the general public.  
6 Such meetings shall be in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting  
7 Act.

8       C. County commissioners may attend and participate in  
9 conferences, trainings, and educational, press, and social events,  
10 even if a quorum is present, provided that no official action is  
11 taken and any discussion of the business of the board of county  
12 commissioners is incidental to the event.

13       D. County commissioners may attend and participate in meetings  
14 and proceedings of the Legislature, even if a quorum is present,  
15 provided that no official action is taken.

16       E. In budget board counties, county commissioners and other  
17 county elected officers may discuss budgetary matters, provided that  
18 a quorum of the county budget board is not present and no official  
19 action is taken.

20           SECTION 2.           AMENDATORY           56 O.S. 2021, Section 625.2, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22           Section 625.2. A. There is hereby created the Statewide  
23 Independent Living Council which shall be established pursuant to  
24

1 the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Public Law 93-112, codified  
2 at 29 U.S.C., Section 701 et seq., as amended.

3       B. The duties of the Council shall be those as set forth in the  
4 federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

5       C. Subject to the availability of state funds other than those  
6 appropriated to the Department of Rehabilitation Services for the  
7 purpose of providing independent living services to its clients, and  
8 in accordance with the State Plan for Independent Living, the  
9 Department of Rehabilitation Services, in joint effort with the  
10 Statewide Independent Living Council, may contract with independent  
11 living centers for the purpose of providing independent living  
12 services to individuals with disabilities and their families.

13       D. The Council shall be permitted to hold meetings through  
14 videoconferencing, provided that:

15           1. Each member of the Council is audible or visible to each  
16 other and the public;

17           2. The meeting notice and agenda prepared in advance of the  
18 meeting, as required by the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, shall  
19 indicate if the meeting will include videoconferencing and shall  
20 also state:

- 21                  a. each Council member appearing remotely, and  
22                  b. the identity of the Council member or members who will  
23                  be physically present at the meeting site, if any;

1       3. After the meeting notice and agenda are prepared and posted  
2       as required by law, Council members shall not be permitted to alter  
3       their method of attendance; provided, however, those members who  
4       were identified as appearing remotely may be permitted to physically  
5       appear at the meeting site, if any, for the meeting;

6       4. The Council shall be permitted to participate and speak, as  
7       allowed by rule or policy set by the Council, in a meeting which  
8       utilizes teleconference or videoconference in the same manner and to  
9       the same extent as the public is allowed to participate or speak  
10      during a meeting where all public body members are physically  
11      present together at the meeting site;

12      5. Unless confidential or privileged by applicable law, any  
13      documents or other materials provided to members of the Council or  
14      shared electronically between members of the Council during a  
15      meeting utilizing teleconferencing or videoconferencing shall also  
16      be immediately available to the public on the Council's website;

17      6. All votes occurring during any meeting utilizing  
18      teleconference or videoconference shall occur and be recorded by  
19      roll call votes; and

20      7. The Council abides by all other requirements of the Oklahoma  
21      Open Meeting Act.

22      E. The Council is permitted to conduct an executive session by  
23      videoconference. For such executive sessions, no Council member is  
24      required to be physically present so long as each Council member is

1   audible or visible to each other. The meeting notice and agenda  
2   prepared in advance of the meeting as required by law shall indicate  
3   if the executive session will include videoconferencing and shall  
4   also state the identity of each Council member appearing remotely,  
5   and whether any member will be physically present at the meeting  
6   site, if any, for the executive session.

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

11         COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
12         April 15, 2025 - DO PASS