Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1351
Version: INT
Request No.: 2459
Author: Sen. Bullard
Date: 12/15/2023

Bill Analysis

SB 1351 establishes the Oklahoma Bullion Depository as a division under the State Treasurer. The Depository shall serve as the custodian, guardian, and administrator of certain bullion and specie that may be transferred to or otherwise acquired by the state, agency, political subdivision, or another instrumentality of the state. The Administrator of the Depository shall be jointly appointed by the Governor and State Treasurer. The Administrator may also appoint a deputy and such staff as needed with the approval of the State Treasurer. Deposits made into the Depository shall not be considered part of the General Revenue Fund. Fees levied by the Depository may be certified as revenue and shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund. The measure also provides that investments made into the Depository by an insurance company may be applied as a credit against certain taxes. Schools investing in the Depository may do so in lieu of an investment as provided by the Security for Local Public Deposits Act.

The Depository may receive any deposit of bullion or specie from or on behalf of a person acting in the person's own right, as trustee, or in another fiduciary capacity. The State Treasurer is directed to promulgate rules to adopt standards by which the quantities of precious metals deposited are credited to a depositor's depository account. Those wishing to deposit such items with the Depository shall contract with the Depository, establishing terms and conditions of the account and relevant fees. Account holders may withdraw from the Depository on demand by the presentment of a suitable check, draft, or digital electronic instruction to the depository or a depository agent or transfer funds to another account using the same. Accounts with the Depository shall not accrue interest. The Depository has a lien on each depository account owned by a depository account holder to secure any fees, charges, or other obligations owed. Written notice of the death or adjudication of incompetency of a depository account holder shall be considered written notice of revocation of the authority of the account holder's attorneyinfact. The Depository may not engage in any loans, extend credit, enter into an agreement to a deposit, trust, or similar relationship for the custody of precious metals by a third party, or lease precious metals. The Depository shall use private, independently managed firms and institutions licensed as depository agents as intermediaries to conduct retail transactions in bullion and specie on behalf of the depository with current and prospective depository account holders. Additionally, the measure authorizes the issuance of a debit card to account holders.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor