

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 1021

By: Sterling

7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Concurrent Resolution requesting a performance  
9 audit of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority; stating  
10 impact of certain proposed projects on citizens of  
11 Oklahoma; recognizing certain authority; requesting  
the performance audit contain certain information;  
requiring distribution of certain report; and  
directing distribution.

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13 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority was created and  
14 authorized by the Oklahoma State Legislature in 1968 with the  
15 purpose of constructing, maintaining, and operating turnpike  
16 projects in this state; and

17 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is authorized to issue  
18 bonds to finance the construction, maintenance, and operations of  
19 turnpike projects in this state; and

20 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority has proposed  
21 constructing a series of additional turnpikes throughout this state  
22 during the next fifteen (15) years and issuing bonds in the amount  
23 of Five Billion Dollars (\$5,000,000,000.00); and

1       WHEREAS, as a part of the fifteen-year plan, the Oklahoma  
2 Turnpike Authority has proposed constructing a twenty-nine-mile  
3 southern extension of the Kickapoo Turnpike running from Interstate  
4 40 in Oklahoma City and connecting to Interstate 35 near the City of  
5 Purcell which would run through the eastern part of the City of  
6 Norman and surrounding communities; and

7       WHEREAS, as a part of the fifteen-year plan, the Oklahoma  
8 Turnpike Authority has proposed constructing a twenty-eight-mile  
9 outer loop east to west connector from the I-44 Tri-City area then  
10 east to I-35 and then east to I-40 which would run through the City  
11 of Moore and the City of Norman; and

12       WHEREAS, the proposed southern extension and east to west  
13 connector threaten the property and livelihoods of residents along  
14 the proposed route and may cause irreparable harm to the water table  
15 vital to the City of Norman, City of Midwest City, and the City of  
16 Del City, and surrounding communities; and

17       WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Legislature is authorized to request  
18 performance audits of governmental entities as provided for in  
19 Section 213.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

20       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
21 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
22 CONCURRING THEREIN:

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1 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature hereby requests the Office  
2 of the State Auditor and Inspector to conduct a performance audit of  
3 the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority every two (2) years.

4 THAT the audit shall answer the following questions:

5 1. A determination of the amount of revenue that is required to  
6 be generated in order for the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority to repay  
7 the original cost of existing turnpikes and the length of time it  
8 will take to generate the funds so that turnpikes can be conveyed to  
9 state ownership and converted to toll-free roads; and

10 2. Assess risk within the agency and develop performance audit  
11 objectives every two years.

12 THAT the State Auditor and Inspector, as part of the performance  
13 audit of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, shall identify the value  
14 and purchase price of all private property acquired by the Oklahoma  
15 Turnpike Authority for the southern extension of the Kickapoo  
16 Turnpike and ACCESS Oklahoma projects in Cleveland County, then  
17 shall:

18 1. Determine if source of funds used to purchase the properties  
19 was allowable in accordance with state law and if the deeds  
20 associated with those properties have been filed with the County  
21 Register of Deeds where the property is located; and

22 2. Determine if the purchase price of each property was  
23 evaluated and negotiated in accordance with state law. In addition,  
24 determine whether property owners were permitted to occupy the real

1 property acquired on a rental basis subsequent to the purchases, and  
2 verify that rent did not exceed the fair rental values of the  
3 property in accordance with state law.

4 THAT the Office of the State Auditor and Inspector shall provide  
5 a written report of the performance audit to the Governor, President  
6 Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
7 Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency, and members of the  
8 Transportation Committees of the Senate and House of  
9 Representatives.

10 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the State  
11 Auditor and Inspector and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority.

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