

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1436

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to turnpikes; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-1401, which relates to unlawful acts on turnpikes; adding certain exemptions for law enforcement; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-1401, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-1401. A. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter that part of a turnpike enclosed by fence except in a vehicle at authorized entrances.

B. It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to fail to pay the toll as prescribed by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle on a turnpike with knowledge that the registered owner of the vehicle is liable for any outstanding toll evasion violations issued pursuant to paragraph 7 of subsection B of Section 11-1401.2 of this title.

1 D. It shall be unlawful for any person to cross a turnpike
2 except at grade separations provided for cross traffic or through
3 drainage structures under the turnpike.

4 E. It shall be unlawful for any person to travel a turnpike on
5 foot except to leave or service a disabled vehicle, or for any
6 person to hitchhike on a turnpike.

7 F. It shall be unlawful for any person to tear down, damage, or
8 remove any turnpike fence.

9 G. It shall be unlawful to drive, operate, or ride any bicycle
10 or other man-powered vehicle or means of transportation on a
11 turnpike. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority may prohibit any light,
12 mechanically powered vehicle from entering the turnpike, or any
13 other vehicle it determines would be injurious to the turnpike
14 surfacing or would be a traffic hazard.

15 H. When any section of highway has been closed to traffic by
16 the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority and traffic-control devices or
17 barricades have been erected, it shall be unlawful for any person to
18 drive any vehicle through, under, over, or around the traffic-
19 control devices or barricades, or otherwise to enter the closed
20 area.

21 I. Subsections A through H of this section shall not apply to:

22 1. Officers, employees, agents, or contractors of the Oklahoma
23 Turnpike Authority in performance of their duties;

1 2. Commissioned officers of the Department of Public Safety or
2 other law enforcement personnel employed by a municipality, county,
3 or state agency;

4 3. Emergency vehicle operators at the request of the Department
5 of Public Safety; or

6 4. Agents, employees, or contractors of public utilities while
7 actually engaged in work in furtherance of construction,
8 maintenance, or repair of such public utilities located on, above, or
9 or below a turnpike.

10 J. It shall be unlawful for any vehicle, except:

11 1. Authorized emergency vehicles;

12 2. Vehicles owned by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, its
13 agents, or contractors;

14 3. Vehicles owned by public utilities, their agents, employees, or
15 or contractors, while actually engaged in construction, maintenance, or
16 or repair of such public utilities; and

17 4. Wrecker vehicles while performing services at the request of
18 the Department of Public Safety,
19 to cross the center dividing strip of a turnpike, or to travel on
20 any lane of a turnpike in a direction contrary to the direction of
21 traffic on such lane.

22 K. All vehicles traveling on a turnpike shall comply at all
23 times with signs placed on the turnpike regulating traffic thereon.

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L. No vehicle shall move from one lane to another unless the way is clear to do so and upon proper signaling.

M. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in Section 17-101 of this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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