1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)
4	ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1565 By: Weaver of the Senate
5	and
6	Ford of the House
7	Ford of the House
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9	An Act relating to the Attorney General; amending 74
10	O.S. 2021, Section 18b, which relates to duties of the Attorney General; creating additional duty for the Attorney General: clarifying lisbility for
11	the Attorney General; clarifying liability for conduct of law enforcement officers; and providing an
12	effective date.
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14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
15	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 18b, is
16	amended to read as follows:
17	Section 18b. A. The duties of the Attorney General as the
18	chief law officer of the state shall be:
19	1. To appear for the state and prosecute and defend all actions
20	and proceedings, civil or criminal, in the Supreme Court and Court
21	of Criminal Appeals in which the state is interested as a party;
22	2. To appear for the state and prosecute and defend all actions
23	and proceedings in any of the federal courts in which the state is
24	interested as a party;

1 3. To initiate or appear in any action in which the interests 2 of the state or the people of the state are at issue, or to appear at the request of the Governor, the Legislature, or either branch 3 thereof, and prosecute and defend in any court or before any 4 5 commission, board or officers any cause or proceeding, civil or criminal, in which the state may be a party or interested; and when 6 so appearing in any such cause or proceeding, the Attorney General 7 may, if the Attorney General deems it advisable and to the best 8 9 interest of the state, take and assume control of the prosecution or defense of the state's interest therein; 10

11 4. To consult with and advise district attorneys, when 12 requested by them, in all matters pertaining to the duties of their 13 offices, when the district attorneys shall furnish the Attorney 14 General with a written opinion supported by citation of authorities 15 upon the matter submitted;

5. To give an opinion in writing upon all questions of law 16 submitted to the Attorney General by the Legislature or either 17 branch thereof, or by any state officer, board, commission or 18 department, provided, that the Attorney General shall not furnish 19 opinions to any but district attorneys, the Legislature or either 20 branch thereof, or any other state official, board, commission or 21 department, and to them only upon matters in which they are 22 officially interested; 23

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At the request of the Governor, State Auditor and Inspector,
 State Treasurer, or either branch of the Legislature, to prosecute
 any official bond or any contract in which the state is interested,
 upon a breach thereof, and to prosecute or defend for the state all
 actions, civil or criminal, relating to any matter connected with
 either of their Departments;

7 7. Whenever requested by any state officer, board or
8 commission, to prepare proper drafts for contracts, forms and other
9 writing which may be wanted for the use of the state;

10 8. To prepare drafts of bills and resolutions for individual 11 members of the Legislature upon their written request stating the 12 gist of the bill or resolution desired;

9. To enforce the proper application of monies appropriated by
the Legislature and to prosecute breaches of trust in the
administration of such funds;

16 10. To institute actions to recover state monies illegally 17 expended, to recover state property and to prevent the illegal use 18 of any state property, upon the request of the Governor or the 19 Legislature;

20 11. To pay into the State Treasury, immediately upon its 21 receipt, all monies received by the Attorney General belonging to 22 the state;

12. To settle, compromise and dispose of an action in which theAttorney General represents the interests of the state, so long as

1 the consideration negotiated for such settlement, compromise or 2 disposition is payable to the state or one of its agencies which is 3 a named party of the action and any monies, any property or other 4 item of value is paid first to the State Treasury;

5 13. To keep and file copies of all opinions, contracts, forms 6 and letters of the office, and to keep an index of all opinions, 7 contracts and forms according to subject and section of the law 8 construed or applied;

9 14. To keep a register or docket of all actions, demands and 10 investigations prosecuted, defended or conducted by the Attorney 11 General in behalf of the state. The register or docket shall give 12 the style of the case or investigation, where pending, court number, 13 office number, the gist of the matter, result and the names of the 14 assistants who handled the matter;

15 15. To keep a complete office file of all cases and 16 investigations handled by the Attorney General on behalf of the 17 state;

18 16. To report to the Legislature or either branch thereof 19 whenever requested upon any business relating to the duties of the 20 Attorney General's office;

21 17. To institute civil actions against members of any state 22 board or commission for failure of such members to perform their 23 duties as prescribed by the statutes and the Constitution and to 24 prosecute members of any state board or commission for violation of the criminal laws of this state where such violations have occurred
 in connection with the performance of such members' official duties;

18. To respond to any request for an opinion of the Attorney
General's office, submitted by a member of the Legislature,
regardless of subject matter, by written opinion determinative of
the law regarding such subject matter;

7 19. To convene multicounty grand juries in such manner and for 8 such purposes as provided by law; provided, such grand juries are 9 composed of citizens from each of the counties on a pro rata basis 10 by county;

11 20. To investigate any report by the State Auditor and 12 Inspector filed with the Attorney General pursuant to Section 223 of 13 this title and prosecute all actions, civil or criminal, relating to 14 such reports or any irregularities or derelictions in the management 15 of public funds or property which are violations of the laws of this 16 state;

17 21. To represent and protect the collective interests of all 18 utility consumers of this state in rate-related proceedings before 19 the Corporation Commission or in any other state or federal judicial 20 or administrative proceeding;

21 22. To represent and protect the collective interests of 22 insurance consumers of this state in rate-related proceedings before 23 the Insurance Commissioner or in any other state or federal judicial 24 or administrative proceeding; 1 23. To investigate and prosecute any criminal action relating 2 to insurance fraud, if in the opinion of the Attorney General a 3 criminal prosecution is warranted, or to refer such matters to the 4 appropriate district attorney; and

5 24. To monitor and evaluate any action by the federal 6 government including, but not limited to, executive orders by the 7 President of the United States, rules or regulations promulgated by 8 an agency of the federal government or acts of Congress to determine 9 if such actions are in violation of the Tenth Amendment to the 10 Constitution of the United States; and

25. To cross-deputize police officers of the police department 11 12 of any municipality or any officer deputized by the county sheriff or a designee subject to an interlocal governmental agreement with 13 the Attorney General's Office in an effort to combine city, county, 14 and state law enforcement efforts and to encourage cooperation 15 between city, county, and state law enforcement officials. 16 Liability for the conduct of any municipal police officer cross-17 deputized under the terms and conditions of an interlocal 18 governmental agreement or any officer deputized by the county 19 sheriff under the terms and conditions of an interlocal governmental 20 agreement shall remain the responsibility of the respective employer 21 for that officer. 22 B. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the 23

24 Attorney General to appear and defend or prosecute in any court any

cause or proceeding for or on behalf of the Oklahoma Tax Commission,
 the Board of Managers of the State Insurance Fund, or the
 Commissioners of the Land Office.

С. In all appeals from the Corporation Commission to the 4 5 Supreme Court of Oklahoma in which the state is a party, the Attorney General shall have the right to designate counsel of the 6 7 Corporation Commission as the Attorney General's legally appointed representative in such appeals, and it shall be the duty of the 8 9 Corporation Commission counsel to act when so designated and to consult and advise with the Attorney General regarding such appeals 10 prior to taking action therein. 11 12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022. 13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY - CRIMINAL, dated 14

- 04/13/2022 DO PASS.
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