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## Legislative News Update

*Week of Jan. 16, 2026*

### 2026 Bill Filing Concludes

At the conclusion of this year's bill-filing deadline on Thursday, lawmakers filed a total 2,574 bills and 74 resolutions for consideration for the 2026 legislative session.

	2026 Bills Requested	2026 Bills Filed	2026 Resolutions Filed	2025 Carryover Bills	2025 Carryover Resolutions
<b>House</b>	1,962	1,578	50	1,646	32
<b>Senate</b>	1,373	996	24	912	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>2,558</b>	<b>51</b>

[2026 Filed Legislation](#)

[2025 Carryover Legislation](#)

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## Pre-session Committee Meetings

[Please click here to view notices and agendas for upcoming pre-session committee meetings scheduled to date.](#)

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## Dillon Travis wins HD 35 Republican runoff, to face Luke Kruse in general election

With all precincts reporting Tuesday night, Dillon Travis won the HD 35 Republican runoff election and will advance to a Feb. 10 general election against Democrat Luke Kruse.

Travis handily defeated Mike Waters in Tuesday's runoff with 1,517 votes (78.3 percent) to Waters' 421 votes (21.7 percent).

House District 35 is centered on Pawnee County, but it also includes parts of Osage, Creek, Payne and Noble counties.

If the winner of the February election wants to keep his seat past November, he will have to refile in April for a new two-year term and potentially face a second election within 2026.

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**Official State Press Releases**

- Jan. 12: [Stitt and TSET to Announce Historic \\$150M Grants to Statewide Organizations](#)
- Jan. 12: [Sen. Kirt files Trio of Bills Tackling the High Cost of Insurance](#)
- Jan. 12: [Stewart Selected as House Democratic Whip](#)
- Jan. 12: [Serial Killer William Reece now in Oklahoma to Face his Death Sentence](#)
- Jan. 13: [Burns Files Legislation to Strengthen Accountability for Sexual Assault Evidence](#)
- Jan. 13: [Drummond Lauds Dismissal of Baseless ClassWallet Case](#)
- Jan. 13: [Sen. Guthrie Introduces Legislation To Prohibit Foreign Ownership of OK Land](#)
- Jan. 13: [Sen. Gillespie Statement on Broken Arrow Council Denying Proposed Development](#)
- Jan. 13: [Shaw files bills on transparency and second amendment rights](#)
- Jan. 13: [Low files comprehensive package of education bills](#)
- Jan. 14: [Fugate files legislation to let voters decide on protecting Oklahoma's initiative petition rights](#)
- Jan. 14: [Roe files bill to increase daily physical activity for Oklahoma students](#)
- Jan. 14: [Senator Burns files bill to require insurance coverage for chemotherapy cooling systems](#)
- Jan. 15: [House Speaker files Safeguarding Eligibility, Compliance and Use of Resources Efficiently \(SECURE\) Act](#)
- Jan. 15: [Gann announces 'Open Legislature Initiative' to subject lawmakers to transparency laws](#)
- Jan. 15: [Legislation to honor Talyn Bain, improve student safety](#)
- Jan. 15: [Maynard files trio of AI safeguards](#)
- Jan. 15: [Senate education leaders announce 2026 policy agenda](#)
- Jan. 15: [Daniels files Pro-Israel bill affirming Judea and Samaria](#)
- Jan. 15: [Sen. Burns files legislation to strengthen verification in groundwater permit applications](#)
- Jan. 15: [Senator Hamilton introduces bills to protect Oklahomans from foreign land ownership, predatory AI](#)

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## General Revenue Fund collections top estimate, prior year

General Revenue Fund collections in December exceeded the monthly estimate, the Office of Management and Enterprise Services reported Tuesday, helping to carry year-to-date collections for the first half of fiscal year 2026 higher than the estimate, as well. [Read more.](#)

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## Oklahoma reaches deal to keep old campaign finance site alive

After scrapping plans for a new campaign finance website, the state Ethics Commission has reached a three-year deal meant to keep its old site alive. [Read more.](#)

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## House Education Committee chair files education bills for coming session

House Education Chair Dick Lowe has filed multiple education-related bills for the coming legislative session, the likely the cornerstone of the House's education plan for 2026. [Read more.](#)

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## Senate Ed Committee leadership releases their plan for the coming legislative session

The Senate Education Committee chair and vice chair has released their own broad plan for education policy in the coming year. [Read more.](#)

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## Education leaders in Oklahoma Legislature lay out literacy plans

Education committee leaders in the Oklahoma Legislature have put literacy laws at the forefront of their yearly policy goals, further entrenching childhood reading as a top focus for the 2026 legislative session. [Read more.](#)

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## Public safety agencies present FY27 budget requests at day-long hearing

Several state public safety agencies assembled before the House Appropriations and Budget Subcommittee on Public Safety to present their annual appropriations requests to lawmakers at a day-long hearing on Monday. [Read more.](#)

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## OTC requests decrease in appropriations

The Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) went before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Transportation on Tuesday to request not only a decrease in their state appropriations for fiscal year 2027 but to urge lawmakers to consider taking from the agency's abundant reserves for other uses. [Read more.](#)

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## Office of Emergency Management needs fund to keep doors open, subcommittee told

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management is asking the Legislature to provide funding to keep its doors open and its programs operating. [Read more.](#)

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## Oklahoma Highway Patrol seeks \$25M for trooper training

The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety requested over \$25 million to train highway patrol troopers. [Read more.](#)

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## DAC targets recruiting, retention funding requests

The District Attorneys Council is again requesting lawmakers provide funds to help local offices recruit and retain attorneys, but they are doing so in a targeted way, the House Appropriations and Budget Subcommittee on the Judiciary was told Tuesday. [Read more.](#)

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## Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education hears three requests for budget increases

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education heard budget requests from three different education agencies, each wanting additional funding. [Read more.](#)

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## **TSET allocates money to increase doctor residencies, cancer treatment access in Oklahoma**

The Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust announced millions in grants Wednesday to expand patient access to trained doctors and cancer treatments. [Read more.](#)

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## **Supreme Court finds bill changing TSET membership unconstitutional**

The Oklahoma Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional a bill passed during the 2025 session that allowed the officials who appoint members to the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust's (TSET) governing board to remove and replace their appointees. [Read more.](#)

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## **Jewish charter school could land Oklahoma in another legal battle, state official says**

After unsuccessfully backing a Catholic charter school, an Oklahoma board will “more than likely” have to deny a proposal to found another publicly funded religious charter school in the state. [Read more.](#)

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## **Charter school board moves ahead on closing Proud to Partner Leadership Academy**

The majority of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board (SCSB) has lost patience with Proud to Partner Leadership Academy. [Read more.](#)

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## **Oklahoma reaches settlement with poultry company**

Oklahoma has reached a settlement with one of the poultry companies it successfully sued over pollution in the Illinois River Watershed. [Read more.](#)

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## Tyson accepts tax break in region it claims is inhospitable to business

A federal judge fining Tyson Foods and other large poultry companies for polluting the Illinois River is part of a decades-long legal fight that prompted the Springdale-based company to deem the watershed “no longer a hospitable place to do business.” [Read more.](#)

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## Horse Racing Commission sends ‘Oklahoma-Bred Fund’ review to OSBI, state auditor

The third-party audit into a state-managed fund that supports horse breeding has been completed, but industry stakeholders left Thursday’s meeting of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission frustrated by a lingering lack of answers about a multi-million-dollar question. [Read more.](#)

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## City of Durant, Choctaw Nation take action against rumored ICE facility

Leaders from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the City of Durant have taken action to deter a potential Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facility rumored to be planned for an industrial property on the south side of the city near the tribe’s headquarters. [Read more.](#)

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## Special General Election for House District 35

The special general election to fill House District 38, which covers parts of Pawnee, Payne, Creek, Noble and Osage counties, is set for **February 10**.

Dillon Travis won the HD 35 Republican runoff election and will face Democrat Luke Kruse in the general election.

### Republican Candidates in Runoff Primary Election

- [Dillion Travis](#), R-Mareme, owns and operates Southern Plains AG-CO, an agricultural business that serves farmers across four states, and runs a large cattle and hay operation in Mareme.

### Democrat Candidate

- **Luke Kruse**, D-Glencoe, is the lone Democrat to file for his party's nomination. He has served as a tenured professor at Northern Oklahoma College for nearly two decades, where he teaches political science and history. He also serves as a volunteer football coach. His website is listed as being under construction.

## 2026 Election Filings

With the 2026 primaries less than a year away, the following candidates have established Candidate Committees with the Oklahoma Ethics Commission indicating an intention to run for statewide office in Oklahoma next year.

### Governor

#### Republican Candidates

- [Gentner Drummond](#), R-Hominy, entrepreneur, cattle rancher, U.S. Air Force veteran, Oklahoma State Attorney General
- [Leisa Mitchell Haynes](#), R-Tuttle, entrepreneur, former city manager in New Mexico
- [Chip Keating](#), R-Oklahoma City, a former Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper and son of former Oklahoma governor Frank Keating
- [Mike Mazzei](#), R-Tulsa, financial planner, former state Senator, former State Secretary of Budget
- [Charles McCall](#), R-Atoka, businessman, banker, former Oklahoma Speaker of the House, former Mayor of Atoka
- [Jake Merrick](#), R-Tulsa, radio host, podcaster, minister, former state Senator
- [Kenneth Leroy Sturgell](#), R-Goldsby, mechanical contractor

## Democrat Candidate

- [Cyndi Munson](#), D-Oklahoma City, nonprofit worker, Oklahoma House Minority Leader
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## Lt. Governor

### Republican Candidates

- [Cindy Byrd](#), R-Oklahoma City, Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector
- [Victor Flores](#), R-Edmond, business and financial consultant, former Chief of Staff and Finances for the Absentee Shawnee tribe
- [Brian Hill](#), R-Yukon, State Representative for House District 37
- [Justin Jerome 'JJ' Humphrey](#), R-Lane, cattle rancher, former drug prevention and parole officer, State Representative
- [Darrell Weaver](#), R-Moore, State Senator, former director of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- Chris White, R-Broken Bow (*no website/bio has been posted yet*)

### Democrat Candidates

- [Kelly Forbes](#), D-Oklahoma City, educator, entrepreneur
  - [Candice Jay](#), D-Norman, self-described 'advocate,' according to her Facebook page
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## Superintendent of Public Instruction:

### Republican Candidates

- [John Cox](#), R-Peggs, Superintendent and Principal of Peggs Public Schools, president of the Oklahoma Rural Elementary Schools, Treasurer of the Oklahoma Schools Insurance Group
- [Gerald 'Jerry' Griffin](#), R-Tulsa, former Tulsa Public Schools board member
- [Ana Davine Landsaw](#), R-Tahlequah, educator
- [Rob Miller](#), R-Bixby, Bixby Public Schools Superintendent, U.S. Marine Corps veteran
- [Adam Pugh](#), R-Edmond, Senate Education Committee chair

## Democrat Candidate

- [Jennettie Marshall](#), licensed funeral director, pastor, Tulsa Public Schools board member – Democrat from Tulsa
  - [Craig McVay](#), former public school superintendent
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**State Auditor and Inspector:**

**Republican Candidate**

- [Melissa Leann Capps](#), R-McCloud, Deputy Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector, certified fraud examiner
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**Attorney General:**

**Republican Candidates**

- [Jon Echols](#), R-Oklahoma City, entrepreneur, attorney, former Oklahoma Majority Floor Leader
- [Jeff Starling](#), R-Tulsa, entrepreneur, attorney, Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment

**Democrat Candidate**

- [Nick Coffey](#), D-Oklahoma City, currently a trial attorney at the Crowe Dunlevy law firm; formerly with Oklahoma City-based assistant U.S. attorney
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**State Treasurer:**

**Republican Candidate**

- [Todd Russ](#), R-Washita, banker, former State Representative, Oklahoma State Treasurer, running for reelection
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**Commissioner of Labor:**

**Republican Candidates**

- [Lisa Janloo](#), R-Spencer, nonprofit worker, Vice President of Spencer Chamber of Commerce
  - [John Pfeiffer](#), R-Orlando, cattle rancher, U.S. Marine Corps veteran, State Representative
  - [Kevin West](#), R-Moore, State Representative, local businessman
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**Insurance Commissioner:**

**Republican Candidates**

- [Chris Merideth](#), R-Edmond, insurance professional, Farmer's Insurance lobbyist
  - [Marty Quinn](#), R-Claremore, entrepreneur, insurance professional, former State Representative
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**Corporation Commissioner:**

**Republican Candidates**

- [Brad Boles](#), entrepreneur, former mayor of Marlow, State Representative – Republican from Marlow
- [Justin Hornback](#), energy industry contractor – Republican from Broken Arrow

**2026 Election Deadlines**

**The filing deadline for the 2026 elections begins April 1 at 8:00AM and ends April 3 at 5:00PM at the State Capitol in OKC.**

<b>Election Date</b>	<b>Election Type</b>	<b>Voter Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Absentee Ballot Request Deadline</b>	<b>Early Voting Dates and Hours</b>	<b>Election Day Voting Hours</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 16</b>	<b>Primary Elections</b>	Friday, May 22	Monday, June 1	June 11-12 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 13 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, August 25</b>	<b>Runoff Primary Elections</b>	Friday, July 31	Monday, August 10	Aug. 20-21 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. August 22 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, November 3</b>	<b>General Elections</b>	Friday, Oct. 9	Monday, October 19	Oct. 28-30 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 31 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Legislative Dates & Deadlines

### January 2026

- **Saturday, January 24:** Oklahoma Speakers Ball, Oklahoma City Convention Center, OKC

### February 2026

- **Monday, February 2:** First Day of the Second Session of the 60th Legislature
- **Tuesday, February 10:** Special General Election for House District 35 (*Rep. Burns' seat*)

### March 2026

- **Thursday, March 5:** Senate Deadline for Bills and Joint Resolutions to be Reported from Committee of Origin
- **Thursday, March 26:** House and Senate Deadline for Third Reading and Final Passage of Bills and Joint Resolutions by the Chamber of Origin

### April 2026

- **Thursday, April 23:** Senate Deadline for House Bills and Joint Resolutions to be Reported from Committee

**May 2026**

- **Thursday, May 7:** House and Senate Deadline for Third Reading and Final Passage of Bills and Joint Resolutions by the Opposite Chamber
- **Friday, May 29:** Sine Die Adjournment of the Second Session of the 60th Legislature

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