



## Legislative Services Proposal

Prepared for: Summit Financial, on behalf of OPEH&W

Date: August 4, 2025

### Executive Summary

Our firm drafted and introduced SB 202 for the 2025 legislative session to allow OPEH&W to participate in *InsureOklahoma*.

The bill passed out of the Senate committees and the Senate floor, as well as the House committees and House floor. We did not encounter any credible opposition during the legislative session, and the bill passed each step with a supermajority, if not unanimously.

The House of Representative struck the title on the bill which necessitated that the bill return to the Senate to “accept or reject” the House amendment as the State Agency responsible for implementing the bill, the Health Care Authority, assigned a substantially inflated \$6MM fiscal note to the bill. May 8<sup>th</sup> the Senate rejected the House amendment and sent the bill to conference so we could address the overstated fiscal note. At the time, the legislature was still negotiating the State’s budget, and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority assigned an amended fiscal note to the bill of \$2MM.

Due to the fiscal notes attached to the bill by the State Agency, the bill was assigned to the GCCA conference committee on May 13<sup>th</sup>. (The legislature generally defers to the State Agencies to establish a fiscal note on legislation.) As the legislature adjourns Sine Die May 30, this did not allow sufficient time to convince the Health Care Authority to remove the fiscal note or advance the bill.

The bill is currently the property of the GCCA conference committee. This means the bill remains in play for the 2026 legislative session, as Oklahoma has two-year sessions. Beginning in February of 2026 the bill can be advanced the final steps and sent to the Governor’s desk for signature. The bill will not need to start from the beginning and go through the full legislative process again.

## Challenges

The challenges we face advancing the bill into law for 2026 include removing/reducing the fiscal note assigned to the bill by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority and receiving approval from leadership to advance the bill, particularly if a fiscal note remains on the bill.

We also face the challenge of the State Agency's delay in advancing rules to implement previous legislation on this subject and potentially our legislation.

## Proposed Strategy

Meet with both of our original authors, Rep. Hill and Sen. Daniels, to confirm their willingness to continue as our authors and advocate for the bill's passage.

Ask Rep. Hill to request a specific set of questions, we will provide, regarding the fiscal note(s) attached to the bill by the Health Care Authority and their budget and expenditures on the *InsureOklahoma* program in past years, as the Health Care Authority has stated the current funding source for *InsureOklahoma* is not covering the annual costs, therefore requiring the Health Care Authority to cover the cost from another line item in their budget.

Ask Rep. Hill to request a detail of the transfers from the tobacco tax to the Health Care authority under Fund 245: the Health Employees and Economy Improvement Act (HEEIA), which funds *InsureOklahoma*.

Ask Rep. Caldwell and Sen. Hall, respective Appropriations Chairmen, for their support of the legislation and explain the cost of implementing our program to alleviate misconceptions about the Health Care Authority's fiscal note.

Meet with Speaker of the House, Hilbert and President Pro-Tempore Paxton of the Senate regarding our strategy to advance the bill from the conference committee early in the session.

Meet with legal counsel at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority regarding the status of the rules related to the legislation passed allowing self-insured plans to participate in



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the *InsureOklahoma* process two years ago, SB 1752, and in anticipation of SB 202's passage.

We drafted proposed rules to implement the previous legislation and our legislation but did not submit our drafts to the Health Care Authority.

### **Timeline**

I propose beginning our strategy August 11<sup>th</sup>. The legislature begins their interim study meetings at the State Capital August 4<sup>th</sup>, continuing to November 6<sup>th</sup>. We will have access to legislators and leadership during this timeframe, and they will be less distracted with the complexities of the fast-moving session. This timeframe also allows time to reconvene with our original authors, request/receive the information on the Health Care Authority's expenditures on *InsureOklahoma*, request/receive the tobacco tax transfer data and lobby the House and Senate leadership and Appropriations Chairs prior to the legislative session reconvening in February 2026. The goal is to have all of these steps completed before the session starts so we can advance our bill right away, while we have more of the legislators' time and attention.

### **Pricing Structure**

I propose continuing the \$4,000 per month fee we previously used, through May 2026. This covers my firm's consulting fee and two lobbyists on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Laura Fleet' in a cursive script.

Laura Fleet, Esq.  
Laura Fleet Consulting, PC