

## Legislation Requested

December 17, 2018

### Education Bills

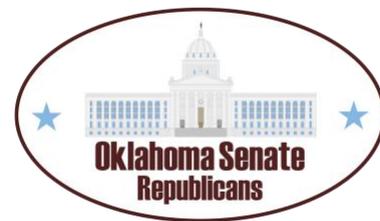
*The top focus of Senate legislation so far for the upcoming 57<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session is on education related bills... (Cont. on page 1)*

### Public Safety Bills

*With the increasing attention being applied to criminal justice reform in our state, many Senate members have filed legislation in this area of law. Other bills ... (cont. on pages 1-2)*

### Government Efficiencies & Finance Legislation

*SB 1 by Senate Pro Tem Greg Treat, R-Oklahoma City, dubbed the "LOFT" bill, has been the most prominent and highlighted piece of legislation filed so far... (cont. on page 2)*



# OK Senate Legislative Update

## Topical Trends Developing within Senate Bills So Far

While the Senate is still weeks away from the bill filing deadline on January 17, there seems to be a trend developing with the legislation that has been filed so far. Both Republican and Democratic members are concentrating their efforts in very similar topics. At the time of this article being written, 61 bills have been filed by more than a dozen senators. Of this early batch of bills, the three most common topics are education, public safety, and government finances. While it is certain hundreds of other bills are soon to be filed in the coming weeks, this small sampling could indicate where the Legislature will be most focused in the coming months.

## Education Legislation

The top focus of Senate legislation so far for the upcoming 57<sup>th</sup> regular session is on education-related bills. While many Oklahoma citizens have begun to believe the topic of education has become a partisan issue, education bills are being heavily pushed on both sides of the aisle. These bills feature content ranging from increasing the accountability and efficiencies of education programs, to upgrading school safety initiatives. If these early bill filings are any indication of the focus for the Senate during the upcoming year, expect to see education legislation run early and often.

For More Articles &  
Videos Visit...

[ProTem.OkSenate.gov](http://ProTem.OkSenate.gov)

## Public Safety Legislation

With the increasing attention being applied to criminal justice reform in our state, many Senate members have filed legislation in this area of law. Other bills that have been filed that could affect the public safety sector include firearm and REAL ID legislation. Oklahomans can expect public safety bills to continue being a heavy focus moving into this legislative session. Senate President Pro Tem Greg Treat has said criminal justice reform will be near the top of the Senate's priority list in the coming years.

## Government Efficiencies & Finance Legislation

SB 1 by Senate Pro Tem Greg Treat, R-Oklahoma City, dubbed the "LOFT" bill, has been the most prominent and highlighted piece of legislation filed so far in the government efficiency category. Much of the language filed within this area of focus is legislation aimed at adjusting Oklahoma's tax system, which could be very much needed with the passage of medical marijuana legalization (SQ788). Senator Stephanie Bice, R-Oklahoma City and Senate Finance chair, confirmed in a recent *OK Senate Sit Down* podcast that making adjustments and insuring the efficiencies of the Oklahoma tax codes will be one of the chief focuses of her committee this year.

*You can find more info on bills, topics, and Senators at:  
[ProTem.OkSenate.gov](http://ProTem.OkSenate.gov)*