



Legislative News Update

Week of October 9

[Click here to view the interim study schedules and agendas.](#)

November 3 General Election – Key Deadlines

- **Voter registration deadline: Friday, October 9.** Oklahomans must register or update their voter registration by this date to participate in the November 3 General Election.
- **Click here to register:** [OK Voter Portal](#)
- Voters may register online, in person or by mail. Online registration requires a current Oklahoma driver license or state ID, and the information and address must match Service Oklahoma records.
- In-person applications may be submitted at a [County Election Board](#), local tag agency or Service Oklahoma location. [Mailed applications](#) must be postmarked by October 9.

- [Absentee ballot request](#) **deadline: 5 p.m. Monday, October 19.** Requests can be made through the OK Voter Portal or by submitting an application to the voter's County Election Board by email, mail, fax or in person.
- Voters who need to register/update their registration and request an absentee ballot may submit both applications together.

[Read the full Oklahoma State Election Board release](#)



2026 Election Update

With Oklahoma's November 3 general election less than a month away, campaigns are entering the final stretch.

Below are several recent articles and resources offering a closer look at the candidates and issues on the ballot, along with opportunities to hear directly from candidates in statewide races.

ELECTION NEWS

- **Oklahoma Voice:** [Oklahoma House Incumbents Face Unusually High Number of November Challenges](#)
- **Oklahoma Voice:** [Labor Commissioner Candidates Outline Different Approaches to Agency Challenges](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [Insurance commissioner candidates MacIntyre, Sullivan hear concerns across Oklahoma](#)
- **Oklahoma Voice:** [Corporation Commission Candidates Differ on Data Centers and Utility Rates](#)
- **Oklahoma Voice:** [Independent Candidates Seek a Larger Role in Oklahoma Elections](#)

- **nondoc.com:** [HD 96: Rep. Preston Stinson, Ashtyn Smith advocate on health care, education issues](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [HD 9: Andrea Biscardi, Scotty Stokes discuss public service experiences, smelter, education](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [SD 18: Yukon-area candidates Tyler Herring, Meredith McGinnis download on data centers](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [HD 47: Indigo Oliver, Toby Thompson face off in fast-growing Mustang district](#)
- **Oklahoma Voice:** [Oklahoma Voice releases Nov. 3 voter guide, highlighting candidates and issues](#)
- **KOSU:** [Oklahoma gubernatorial candidate Cyndi Munson speaks with Oklahoma State University students](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [SQ 847: Voters to consider lowering maximum property valuation increases](#)

WATCH: 2026 GOVERNOR'S DEBATE

Republican Mike Mazzei and Democrat Cyndi Munson met for an OETA debate October 1, discussing education, health care, affordability, taxes, insurance costs, immigration, data centers and other issues facing Oklahoma. The debate is currently the only gubernatorial debate scheduled between the two major-party nominees before the November 3 election.

- **KOSU:** [Mike Mazzei, Cyndi Munson face off in Oklahoma gubernatorial debate](#)
- **nondoc.com:** [In OETA debate, Mazzei, Munson face 'the elephant in the room'](#)

[Watch the full 2026 Oklahoma Governor's Debate on OETA](#)

UPCOMING CANDIDATE FORUMS & DEBATES

October 13 — Candidate Conversations | Tulsa

Candidates for Governor, State Superintendent and Attorney General are scheduled to participate in a public candidate forum at the University of Tulsa's Lorton Performance Center. The event begins with an opportunity to meet candidates and organizations from 5–6 p.m., followed by candidate discussions from 6–7:30 p.m.

Invited participants include gubernatorial candidates Mike Mazzei and Cyndi Munson; State Superintendent candidates Robert Franklin and Jennettie Marshall; and Attorney General candidates Jon Echols and Nick Coffey. The forum is free and will also be broadcast live on TUTV's YouTube channel and social media. [Click here for more information.](#)

October 22 — Oklahoma Attorney General Debate | Oklahoma City

Republican Jon Echols and Democrat Nick Coffey are scheduled to meet for a debate at 5:45 p.m. at the Metro Tech District Center. The debate, hosted by NonDoc and Griffin Media, will be moderated by journalists Tres Savage and Jennifer Pierce and is expected to be livestreamed through News 9, News on 6 and other participating outlets. [Click here for more information.](#)



2026 Interim Studies

Approved House Interim Studies

[Click here to view the list of approved House interim studies.](#)

Approved Senate Interim Studies

[Click here to view the list of approved Senate interim studies.](#)



Official State Press Releases

- Oct. 5: [Roe Honored for Commitment to OK Healthcare](#)
- Oct. 6: [Mazzei Gubernatorial Campaign Announces New General Election Ad](#)
- Oct. 6: [Governor Stitt Thanks Director Vest for Service, Announces Interim OEM Director](#)
- Oct. 6: [Lawmakers Explore Solutions to Oklahoma's Water Infrastructure Challenges](#)
- Oct. 7: [Governor Thanks Sec. Tim Gatz for 37 Years of Service, Appoints TJ Dill](#)



‘A good man’: Former Sen. Tom Dugger dies at 77

Former Sen. Tom Dugger, who took a keen interest in Oklahoma’s finances during his eight years in the State Senate, died Monday after a years-long fight with Parkinson’s disease. He was 77 years old. [Read more.](#)



Supreme Court rules proposed property tax elimination state question unconstitutional

Quorum Call: Supreme Court rules proposed property tax elimination state question unconstitutional

The Oklahoma Supreme Court narrowly ruled unconstitutional Monday a proposed state question that, if approved, would eliminate the property tax on homestead real property. [Read more.](#)

Oklahoma Voice: Proposed property tax elimination state question invalid, Oklahoma high court rules

A divided Oklahoma Supreme Court has invalidated a proposed state question that sought to eliminate property taxes in three years. [Read more.](#)

Supreme Court rejects request to move up constitutional convention arguments

The Oklahoma Supreme Court on Monday rejected Gov. Kevin Stitt's request to move up its hearing on in the case challenging the governor's call for a vote of the people on whether state will hold a constitutional convention. [Read more.](#)

Gatz announces retirement from ODOT after 37 years of service

Quorum Call: Gatz announces retirement from ODOT after 37 years of service

Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation Tim Gatz, who also serves as the executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, announced Monday he will be retiring at the end of October. [Read more.](#)

Oklahoma Voice: Oklahoma transportation czar to retire, capping long state career

Oklahoma Department of Transportation Executive Director Tim Gatz is retiring at the end of October. [Read more.](#)

Ethics Commission reports it found 'substantial evidence' Williams violated rules

The Ethics Commission announced Thursday it has found "substantial evidence" that Rep. Danny Williams has violated three of its rules: Misuse of office, misuse of authority, and conflicts of interest. Some of the alleged

violations relate to his role as chair of the Oklahoma Education Commission, for which he authored the authorized legislation. [Read more.](#)

Senate Ag, Wildlife hears rural water district studies

Oklahoma's rural water districts need billions of dollars to be brought up to date, the Senate Agriculture and Wildlife Committee was told Monday during two combined interim studies. [Read more.](#)

Tourism Department outlines growing deferred maintenance needs at interim study

The House Tourism Committee hosted an interim study Monday morning on the funding, or lack thereof, for Oklahoma's state parks, particularly the massive backlog of deferred maintenance. [Read more.](#)

Tourism wants revenue increase to take advantage of Olympic hype

The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department focused on tourism marketing in the agency's second interim study session of the day before the House Tourism Committee. [Read more.](#)

Abandoned commercial marijuana grows remain an issue, OMMA confirms at interim study

Quorum Call: Abandoned commercial marijuana grows remain an issue, OMMA confirms at interim study

Despite the passage of legislation two year ago aimed at the issue, abandoned commercial marijuana grows remain a problem throughout Oklahoma as showcased by an interim study hosted Tuesday by the Senate Business and Insurance Committee. [Read more.](#)

Regulators say they need a better way to track Oklahoma marijuana grows

Leaders of Oklahoma's drug enforcement agency say they need a statewide database to track compliance and enforcement of marijuana grow sites. [Read more.](#)

OK's physical residency pipeline, GME funding examined at interim study

The Senate Health and Human Services Committee hosted an interim study on Thursday focused on Oklahoma's oft-cited physician shortage, namely improving the residency pipeline and graduate medical education (GME) funding as potential solutions. [Read more.](#)

Child care industry tells committee market has failed

Advocates for early childhood and child care providers told lawmakers from the House and Senate on Thursday that their industry is a failed market. [Read more.](#)

Oklahoma aerospace provides \$52.5 billion annual economic impact, study shows

The Oklahoma aerospace and defense industry has a \$52.5 billion impact on the state's economy every year, according to a new study released by the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. [Read more.](#)



Law enforcement community wants to make active shooter training a requirement

Law enforcement agencies have dedicated significant time and funding into active shooter training over the past five years. [Read more.](#)



Lawmakers review sex offender registry laws

Lawmaker were encouraged Tuesday to consider changes to the state's sex offender registration laws, ranging from modifying the list of crimes for which one is required to register to establishing a new risk assessment process for those being placed on it and to create a process for particularly the aged to be removed from the list. [Read more.](#)



Wildlife rehabbers share policy recommendations at bipartisan interim study

Several wildlife rehabilitators were given the floor at a bipartisan interim study Wednesday hosted by the House Wildlife Committee to share policy recommendations with lawmakers to strengthen regulations around the practice in Oklahoma. [Read more.](#)



Lawmakers consider introducing recording to Oklahoma courtrooms to assist operations

Lawmakers on Wednesday discussed taking another stab at modernizing Oklahoma courtrooms by introducing audio and visual recording technology. [Read more.](#)

‘Indiscriminate mass surveillance’: Judge says ALPR search violated Fourth Amendment in meth case

In a case involving about 100 pounds of methamphetamine, U.S. District Judge Sara Hill ruled in favor of a motion to suppress evidence obtained after Tulsa County Deputy Sheriff Freddie Alaniz ran the license plate of Melisa Susan Kyle through two automated readers before detaining her and searching her vehicle. [Read more.](#)

Oklahoma officials are looking to ease diesel costs. How much relief can farmers expect?

Diesel costs are high and Oklahoma officials are trying to cushion the price punch through softening rules around off-road diesel. How soft is this cushion? [Read more.](#)

New round of opioid abatement funding opens for Oklahoma schools

The Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office is encouraging public schools, technology centers and state higher education institutions to apply for its latest round of grants supported by opioid settlement funds. [Read more.](#)

Urban, rural hospitals closing at similar rates, study finds

Urban hospitals are closing at roughly the same rate as rural ones, and the shuttered hospitals are more likely to have served communities with high poverty rates and fewer transportation options, according to a new study published Thursday in the journal JAMA. [Read more.](#)

Trump auto-enrolls 10s of millions in child investment accounts

Every child in the United States with a valid Social Security number is now enrolled in a tax-advantaged investment account, titled a “Trump Account,” President Donald Trump announced Wednesday. [Read more.](#)

2026 Election Deadlines

Election Date/ Filing Date	Election Type	Voter Registration Deadline	Absentee Ballot Request Deadline	Early Voting Dates & Hours	Election Day Voting Hours
November 3	General Elections	October 9	October 19	Oct. 28 - 30 8 A.M. – 6 P.M. Oct. 31 8 A.M. – 2 P.M.	7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

2026-27 Legislative Dates & Deadlines

October 2026

- **Friday, October 30:** Deadline for Interim Studies to be Completed

December 2026

- **Friday, December 4:** Deadline for Requesting Drafting of Bills and Joint Resolutions for the Second Session of the 60th Legislature (House and Senate)

January 2027

- **Tuesday, January 5:** Organizational Day for the First Session of the 61st Legislature

- **Thursday, January 14:** Deadline for Filing of Bills and Joint Resolutions for the Second Session of the 60th Legislature (House and Senate)

February 2027

- **Monday, February 1:** First Day of the First Session of the 61th Legislature

March 2027

- **Thursday, March 25:** Deadline for Third Reading and Final Passage of Bills and Joint Resolutions in the House of Origin (House and Senate)

May 2027

- **Thursday, May 6:** Deadline for Third Reading and Final Passage of Bills and Joint Resolutions in the House Opposite the House of Origin (House and Senate)
 - **Thursday, May 28:** Sine Die Adjournment of the First Session of the 61th Legislature
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