

## 04/11/22 – DRS Commission Legislative Report

### by Jennifer Hardin

- 03/24/22 – Third reading deadline to get bills out of chamber of origin.
- Dead Bills = 323
- Live Bills = 1,100
- 4/14 – Committee deadline for bills to be heard in opposite chamber.

DRS Request Bill
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[HB 2328](#)

[Lawson, Mark\(R\)](#)  
[Rosino, Paul\(R\)](#)

Exempting blind vending from competitive bidding requirements under the Central Purchasing Act.

*Problem being addressed: When DRS purchases equipment through the competitive bidding process we have to purchase a larger quantity of machines than what's needed at the time of purchase based on specifications of the current machines on the market. This means DRS must store machines for a period of time prior to deployment and run the risk of deploying machines that are technically obsolete.*

**Bill History:**

This is a carryover bill from the '21 session that passed in the chamber of origin. On 9/29/21, I with Sen. Rosino to discuss the status of the bill. He recommended DRS work with OMES to seek a solution that doesn't require a change in statute.

**12/09/21**– We had a meeting with OMES staff to discuss options. OMES will pursue the route of a statewide contract that will meet the needs of DRS and other governmental entities. The bid was released in January and will close on 2/18/22. After the bid closes, we will determine if this solution is going to be viable.

**2/18/22** – The bid closed on 2/18. However, there was not a responsive bidder that can provide purchase options. I will schedule another meeting with OMES to discuss other solutions to include pursuing the legislation.

**3/21/22** – Meeting with Sen. Rosino. The plan is to keep the bill alive as we continue to work with OMES on an alternative solution.

Direct DRS Impact Bills
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[HB 1711](#)

[Hill, Brian\(R\)](#)  
[Rosino, Paul\(R\)](#)

Allowing blind or visually impaired persons to request election ballots electronically.

**Bill History:** This is a carryover bill from the '21 session. I provided the ORC, Able Tech, and the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) with a copy of the bill for feedback. The NFB made a recommendation to strike the language that prohibits electronic returns. On 11/1/21, I provided the feedback to Rep. Hill for consideration.

**2/22/21** – Passed House floor.

**3/15/21** – Assigned to Senate Rules and Appropriations Committees.

**3/30/22** – Passed out of Senate Rules Committee.

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[HB 1792](#)

[Stinson, Preston \(R\)](#)  
[Kirt, Julia \(D\)](#)

Modifies language relating to disabled persons changing the term 'handicapped' to 'disabled' in approximately 18 titles of OK. Law.

*The bill was transferred from Rep. Pae to Rep. Stinson in February.*

**Bill History:** This is a carryover bill from the '21 session that opens approximately 18 titles in the OK. Statutes.

**3/1/22** – Passed unanimously out of the House Health Services & Long-Term Care Committee.

**3/8/22** – Passed House Floor.

**3/24/22** – Assigned to Senate Health & Human Services Committee.

DRS Shell/Impact Bill
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[HB 3888](#)

[McCall, Charles\(R\)](#)  
[Simpson, Frank \(R\)](#)

Adjusts employment contracts for teachers employed by the Oklahoma School for the Deaf and Oklahoma School for the Blind to establish a maximum of 1,200 working hours and provides a standard of what qualify as working hours.

*Bill History:* 1/20/22 – Filed as a shell bill.

2/14/22 – Placed on House Rules Committee agenda.

2/15/22 – Passed unanimously out of Rules Committee.

3/7/22 – Passed on House floor.

4/5/22 – Passed out of Senate Education Committee.