



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 14, 2025

This was the first week of 'Floor Work' for the elected officials in the Capitol, which means the entire Senate and House are voting on the bills that have passed out of their committees. The deadline for bills to pass off the House or Senate floor is March 27th.

Next week will be a short legislative week because the House and Senate are going to observe 'spring break' next Wednesday and Thursday. Below are a few of the bills that were heavily debated over this week and could impact working people and families in Oklahoma.

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[SB 250](#) is a bill that would allow employers to credit "tips/gratuity, meals or lodging received by the employee" up to \$3.63 of an employee's minimum wage payment. The author, Sen. Kristin Thompson, stated multiple times that "the purpose of the bill is to provide clarity to employees as well as employers."

- There was lengthy debate on whether this would only benefit the employer because an employee could potentially "lose" up to \$3.63 of their paycheck every hour.
- The bill passed with a vote of 26-17 and was received by the House, and OK AFL-CIO will of course update you when the bill gets assigned to a house committee.

Senator Ally Seifried from Claremore is Vice Chair of the Senate Education Committee, and she had two of her education-related bills heard on the Senate floor this week.

- [SB 6](#) is a bill moving school board election dates to occur during other state and local elections. This would make nonpartisan school board candidates partisan due to the election timing, as well as increase the costs significantly for citizens wishing to run for school board. The bill passed 33 to 10.
- [SB 139](#) would direct school districts in Oklahoma to have a policy where students are banned from using cell phones from 'bell-to-bell' while at school. The bill was passed with a vote of 30 to 15.

The House of Representatives on Thursday asked questions and debated Rep. David Hardin's [HB 1362](#) for almost a full hour. The bill builds on last year's law creating a misdemeanor for undocumented immigrants to be present in the state of Oklahoma.

- The bill creates a felony for "Any person who is apprehended and arrested for violating a criminal law of this state, and after determining the citizenship status of the person is found to be unlawfully present in the United States."

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Helpful Links:

Live video-

[Oklahoma House of Representatives](#)

[Oklahoma Senate](#)

[Who is your Legislator?](#)

[How a bill becomes a law](#)

If you have any questions, or further interest in the bills' details you are more than welcome to give our office a call at 405-528-2409 and ask for Isabella.

Have a great weekend!

OK AFL-CIO