

BILL ADDING ALPHA-GAL SYNDROME TO STATE REPORTING HEADS TO GOVERNOR'S DESK

A bill that would add the condition commonly known as the red meat allergy to the state's list of reportable diseases and conditions is now headed to the governor's desk for final consideration.

Senate Bill 1644, authored by Rep. Cynthia Roe (R-Lindsay) would require health care providers and laboratories to report suspected cases of alpha-gal syndrome and add the condition to the Oklahoma State Department of Health's list of reportable diseases and conditions.

"Because symptoms can vary widely and there is no single definitive test, it is important we capture suspected cases across the state to improve awareness and prevention," Roe said. "By tracking alpha-gal syndrome in Oklahoma, we can better inform the public and help reduce future cases through early detection."

Alpha-gal syndrome is a tick-borne allergic condition caused by the bite of the lone star tick (*amblyomma americanum*). The condition can trigger a delayed allergic reaction, typically three to six hours after consuming red meat or other mammalian products, due to the body's immune response to the alpha-gal sugar molecule.

Those most at risk include individuals who spend extended time outdoors and those exposed to tick habitats. Roe said the legislation intends to provide data as cases increase across the country and for the state to tap into federal funds to help with research once the number of cases is known.

"We have many hunters, farmers, and outdoor workers who could experience alpha-gal in our state, and with its growing prevalence across the country, it is important we get an accurate picture of the numbers," Roe said. "We also need to identify where cases are occurring in Oklahoma and position ourselves to access any available federal resources to help address it."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 0.15% of Americans have been diagnosed with alpha-gal syndrome, though the actual number is believed to be higher due to underreporting and the condition not being nationally notifiable. By requiring suspected cases to be reported at the state level, SB1644 aims to bridge the gap and improve understanding of the condition's impact in Oklahoma.

If signed into law, the SB1644 will take effect Nov. 1.



Senate sends bill to prevent identity theft, fraud to governor

On Wednesday, April 29, the Oklahoma Senate passed legislation from Sen. Chuck Hall (R-Perry) to crack down on fraud and identity theft by imposing harsher penalties for these crimes.

House Bill 3244, which passed the Senate unanimously, modernizes Oklahoma's criminal fraud laws by expanding the definition of a pattern of criminal activity to include crimes committed across multiple jurisdictions, including online and out-of-state activity. It also broadens what qualifies as identity theft by including new forms of personal and financial data commonly sought by criminals.

Rep. Steve Bashore (R-Miami) is the primary House author on this bill.

Hall said the sharp rise in reported fraud cases is alarming. In 2019, the Federal Trade Commission received 3.5 million fraud reports. By 2025, that number had jumped to 6.5

million, with an estimated \$12.5 billion in losses.

"Criminal fraud and identity theft have become a full-blown crisis across the nation," Hall said. "Updating these laws will help the state stay ahead of these criminals as they use technology in new ways to carry out complex fraud and theft schemes. These criminals often target the most vulnerable Oklahomans, which is why stronger penalties and updated protections are warranted. I appreciated working with Representative Bashore to advance this critical legislation."

Hall said HB 3244 closes a legal loophole and makes it a crime for someone to use coercion, exploitation, deception, or intimidation to exploit vulnerable populations — including the elderly and minors — into committing a crime.

"Identity theft is one of the most personal and hurtful kinds of violation that exists," Bashore

said. "It strikes at the very core of who we are. I appreciate Senator Hall and his strong stance in protecting particularly the elderly and the vulnerable through this legislation. Stopping these crimes that are becoming more rampant and more inventive and administering stronger punishments to those that commit them will benefit all of society."

HB 3244 also strengthens identity theft laws by expanding the list of personal information someone can illegally possess or use with fraudulent intent to include fingerprints, PIN numbers, DNA, usernames, passwords, and more. The bill strengthens penalties for repeat offenders and improves coordination between law enforcement and financial institutions investigating suspected fraud.

HB 3244 now advances to the governor's desk.

Ottawa County Court Report

Marriages

Quinton Blake Bankson and Harley Alexandria Maness
 Darin Eugene Bitts and Sheila Lynn Bitts
 Tommy Stephen Carpenter and Brittany Lynn Sadler
 Tanner Dale Cupp and Savannah Ann McElroy
 John Bill Foley and Sandra Wileen Curtis
 John Mark Eberhardt and Jo Ann Hill
 Brandon Daniel Kampfe and Tana Justine Foster
 Francis Leroy Frick and Tymera Grace Foster
 Nicholas E. Hampton and Cynthia Ruthann Johnson
 Shane Michael Hannaford and Alicia Dawn Stivers
 James Aaron Hensley and Rayden R. Stone
 Robert Lee Holmes and Sherri Levett Johnson
 Garret Michael Morgan and Callie Paige Morgan
 Anthony Jay Murphy and Melissa Gayle Norris
 Joe Warren Smith and Kelly-Jean Nicole Nance
 William James Osburn and Tina Sue Wiseley
 Michael Lane Tennyson and Lindzee Nicole York

Divorces

Emily Deann Chasteen vs. Steven Ray Chasteen

Protective Orders

Lainee Christine Camp vs. Mark Carrico
 Kathryn Elizabeth Marcum vs. James Ray Marcum

Misdemeanors

State of Oklahoma vs. James Michael Brandon for driving without a valid driver's license
 State of Oklahoma vs. Michael C. Brown for driving without valid driver's license
 State of Oklahoma vs. Brandi N. Chambers for driving with license cancelled/suspended/revoked
 State of Oklahoma vs. Anna Gail Crandall for driving without a valid driver's license
 State of Oklahoma vs. Dennis P. Davis for driving with license cancelled/suspended/revoked
 State of Oklahoma vs. Andrea L. Holladay for driving with license cancelled/suspended/revoked
 State of Oklahoma vs. Billy Ray Horton for failure to maintain insurance or security

State of Oklahoma vs. Freeman K. Millhollon for failure to maintain insurance or security
 State of Oklahoma vs. Levi Hunter Rhinehart for no offense listed
 State of Oklahoma vs. Kevin Darnell Smith for public intoxication
 State of Oklahoma vs. Rickey Lynn Tolbert Jr. for driving without a valid driver's license
 State of Oklahoma vs. Parker Joel Woods for driving with license cancelled/suspended/revoked

Felonies

State of Oklahoma vs. Shorty Bensley for domestic assault and battery by strangulation
 State of Oklahoma vs. Skylar Cauble for attempted burglary in the second degree
 State of Oklahoma vs. Yvonne Leann Robison for driving under the influence – aggravated
 State of Oklahoma vs. Kody Wagner for attempted burglary in the second degree

LEGALS

ORDINANCE NO. 26-4
 1, 2026.
 AN ORDINANCE OPTING OUT OF THE OKLAHOMA TOWN MEETING ACT (11 O.S. Section 16-101, et seq); REQUIRING ELECTIONS AND INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM QUESTIONS TO BE DECIDED ONLY THROUGH ELECTIONS CONDUCTED BY THE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE
 ADOPTED THIS 23rd day of April, 2026.
/s/ James M. Coissart
MAYOR
 ATTEST:
/s/ Donna S. Lawrence
TOWN CLERK
 (Published in the Miami News Record May 5, 2026)
 LPXLP

Be it Ordained by the Town Board of Trustees in the Town of North Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma:

Section 1. Pursuant to 11 O.S. Section 16-302 (effective November 1, 2013), the Town of North Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma, hereby declares that it shall not be governed by the Oklahoma Town Meeting Act as a means of electing its officers and deciding initiative and referendum questions. (Town of North Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma is less than 2,000 residents as of the 2010 and 2020 Federal Census).

Section 2. The Town of North Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma shall hereby elect its officers and decide initiative and referendum questions through elections conducted by the county election board pursuant to 11 O.S. Section 16-101 et seq.

Sections 3: The effective date of this ordinance shall be June

also filed in said Court her Second Amended Petition, together with a copy of said Will praying for the probate of the Will and asking that the Letters Testamentary issue to Brenda Hughes and for a judicial determination of the heirs, devisees and legatees of said decedent.
 Pursuant to an order of this Court made on April 28, 2026, notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of May, 2026, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., the Second Amended Petition will be heard in the District Courtroom of the undersigned Judge at the Ottawa County Courthouse, Miami, Oklahoma, when and where all persons interested may appear and contest the same.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of April, 2026.

/s/ R. Matt Whalen
Judge of the District Court

Andrew T. Doney, OBA #31366
DONEY LAW PLLC
2 N. Main, Ste. 404
Miami, OK 74354
(918) 540-2199
FAX (918) 540-1999
Attorney for Petitioner
 (Published in the Miami News Record May 5, 2026)
 LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR OTTAWA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLOTTE FELICIA HOFFMAN, a/k/a Charlotte F. Hoffman, a/k/a Charlotte Hoffman, Deceased

Case No. PB-2025-58
NOTICE OF HEARING FINAL ACCOUNT, PETITION FOR ORDER DETERMINING HEIRSHIP, DISTRIBUTION AND DISCHARGE

NOTICE is hereby given that Joseph J. Tyner, Personal Representative of the Estate of Charlotte Felicia Hoffman, a/k/a Charlotte F. Hoffman, a/k/a Charlotte Hoffma, Deceased, has filed in this Court his Final Account, Petition for Order Determining Heirship, Distribution and Discharge for the administration of said estate, the hearing on the same is hereby fixed by the undersigned Judge of said Court for the 28th day of May, 2026 at the hour of 9:30 a.m. in the Ottawa County Courthouse in Miami, Oklahoma; and all persons interested in said estate are then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why such account should not be settled and allowed, and said estate distributed.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court here unto affixed this 23rd day of April, 2026.

/s/ R. Matt Whalen
Judge of the District Court
 DATED this 23rd day of April, 2026.

John W. Thomas, OBA #22445
DAVIS and THOMPSON, PLLC
207 East Central
Miami, Oklahoma 74354
918-542-5524
 (Published in the Miami News Record April 28 and May 5, 2026)
 LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR OTTAWA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estate of CLAUD PATRICK SHEA, Deceased

Case No. PB-2026-16
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: The Creditors of Claud Patrick Shea, Deceased

All persons having claims against Claud Patrick Shea, Deceased, are required to present the same, with a description of all security interests and other collateral, if any, held by each creditor with respect to such claim to the named Personal Representative at the law office of John W. Thomas, Attorney at Law, 207 East Central, Miami, Oklahoma 74354, on or before the following presentation date: June 25, 2026, or the same will be forever barred.

John W. Thomas, OBA #22445
Attorney for Personal Representative
207 East Central
Miami, Oklahoma 74354
(918) 542-5524
 (Published in the Miami News Record April 28 and May 5, 2026)
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