

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3007.

House Bill 3007 preserves unnecessary government bloat by extending the life of advisory councils whose functions can and should be absorbed within the existing agency structure. The Department of Environmental Quality can use existing personnel, subject matter experts, and agency liaisons to coordinate with stakeholders and perform the work of these advisory councils without another layer of government.

These advisory councils were never meant to exist indefinitely. They were created over 15 years ago with sunset dates to ensure periodic scrutiny and justification for their continued existence. Instead, the Legislature appears to have renewed them as a matter of course. When the sunset process fails to provide that scrutiny, I will.

This veto reflects a straightforward principle: government should be lean, efficient, and accountable.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3007.