

Senate, continued from page 4

prescribe, distribute, and administer medicines, devices, or treatments as defined by the Board of Nursing; requires such nurse practitioners to accept responsibility to practice in the accepted manner for their profession.

After adopting the conference committee report, members voted to pass the measure and its emergency clause with a vote of 44 to 0.

SB702, by Sen. Helen Cole, R-Oklahoma City, provides penalties for any person selling low-point beer between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Cole said **SB701** was combined with the measure, due to several "well intended but unworkable amendments" from the House.

Containing three sections, the first section is "clean-up" language adding the penalty that was not included in previous legislation. Section two is an amendment from the House which revokes the permit of the vendor who sells low-point beer to minors after the second offense. The third section provides penalties for selling low-point beer to persons who are already intoxicated.

"We have to give those that regulate low-

point beer some tools to work with," Cole said. "If you are going to sell it, you have to be responsible for it."

Sen. Bill Gustafson, R-El Reno, raised concerns that employers could potentially be put out of business due to negligent employees failing to obtain proper identification from those purchasing low-point beer.

"I don't like putting my future in the hands of an employee," he said.

Gustafson also said that section three of the bill failed to provide an adequate definition of "intoxicated," placing employees who may not recognize a person as being under the influence of alcohol at risk.

"The problem is not the liquor store," Cole said, "the problem is the cold six-pack to go."

With a roll call vote of 40 to 7, members adopted the conference committee report and went on to pass the bill with a vote of 42 to 4.

SB791, by Sens. Darryl Roberts, D-Ardmore, and Don Williams, D-Balko, and Rep. Jari Askins, D-Duncan, removes the prohibition against transporting a concealed rifle or shotgun in a vehicle.

The adopted conference committee report clarifies language, stating that only per-

sons not convicted of a felony may transport concealed rifles or shotguns under the measure.

Representing a rural district, Sen. Don Williams said after the bill's passage, "Sen. Darryl Roberts and I brought this issue to the attention of the Senate last year, but I don't think many people really understood the consequences.

"Last year's bill made law-breakers out of the hundreds of honest, law-abiding citizens who carry an unloaded shotgun or rifle behind the seat of their pickup as they work on their farm or ranch."

With a vote of 44 to 0, the measure and its emergency clause passed.

SB859, by Sen. Don Williams and Rep. Clay Pope, D-Loyal, includes weather modification in a list of designated purposes for county sales tax.

The adopted conference committee report, according to the author, puts the bill in the form it was in when it originally left the Senate.

The bill and its emergency clause passed with a vote of 46 to 0.

The Senate is scheduled to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 8, 1996.

INHOFE SAYS PROPOSED DEFENSE BILL GOOD FOR OKLAHOMA

From US Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla.

■(WASHINGTON) U.S. Senator James M. Inhofe, R-Okla., praised the Senate Armed Services Committee's work on the 1997 Defense Authorization bill, saying it wisely sought to correct serious deficiencies in the inadequate Clinton budget. Inhofe also said that strong consensus exists to fund important defense related projects in Oklahoma.

"The Senate Armed Services Committee has acted boldly to provide needed improvements to our national security posture," Inhofe said. "Oklahoma can be proud of the vital role it continues to play in our national defense. I am pleased that military facilities in our state can look forward to moving forward on important defense work in the coming years."

Inhofe reported that the following specific Oklahoma-related projects were among those agreed to in Committee action last week:

Tinker Air Force Base: \$9.4 million for a vehicle maintenance facility; \$3.4 million for an operations training facility.

Altus Air Force Base: \$3.2 million for a hydrant fuel system; \$23 million for family housing upgrades.

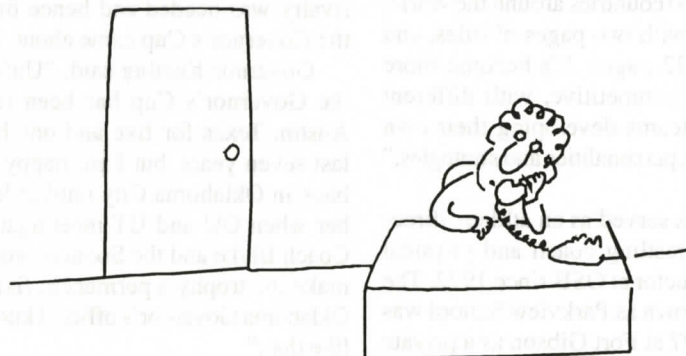
McAlester Ammunition Plant: \$14.2 million for construction for an administration facility.

Will Rogers Airport (Air National Guard): \$570,000 for a security police facility.

The proposed Defense Authorization bill also includes additional funding for a number of aircraft and weapons systems operated or maintained in Oklahoma. These include Air Force programs such as the C-130J, the C-17, the B-1B and the B-2, and

Army weapons such as the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) and the Paladin howitzer, which are operated at Ft. Sill.

The proposed bill will next go to the Senate floor for debate and final action. A similar bill is working its way through the House. Any differences in the two bills would be reconciled in a House-Senate conference later in the year, after which both houses would proceed to a final vote. Inhofe is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.



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"Could you call back next week. He just found out none of his bills made it, and he's meditating."