

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 4434.

House Bill 4434 would impose impractical advance notice requirements on the Governor any time he is absent from the state.

The advances in transportation and communication technology since 1907 ensure that the Governor is the Governor regardless of where he is. It's unreasonable to assume that the Governor would no longer be the Governor just because he crossed state lines.

Ultimately, the bill appears to rest on a misunderstanding of Article VI, Section 15 of the Oklahoma Constitution, which addresses a vacancy in the office of Governor. The Governor is the Governor from the time he is sworn in to office until the day he vacates office.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 4434.