

During the 2011 legislative session, a group of state legislators successfully passed a bill that suspends the Oklahoma Art in Public Places requirement for state agencies to incorporate art into their capital improvement projects. Unfortunately, in a misguided and uninformed attempt to improve the state's general budget deficit, a moratorium was enacted for the fiscal years 2012-2014. The moratorium will not impact the state's general budget in any manner.

Nonetheless, it is important to be clear in determining which capital projects of \$250,000 or more are affected by the moratorium during which the art allocation is no longer mandatory. In accordance with Attorney General Opinion 05-37, the applicability of the moratorium depends on when the agency's governing body or executive director has taken some formal action to approve the capital project. If the project is approved during the fiscal years 2012-2014, the mandated allocation for art is suspended.

**All capital improvement projects approved by the agency's governing board before July 1, 2011 are subject to the 1.5% allocation for artwork as per 74 O.S. Section 9030 et seq.**