

Rep. Brian Hill emphasizing workforce in legislation

By Jacob Sturm
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Mustang Rep. Brian Hill has championed investing in the community throughout his time at the State Capitol since he took office in 2018.

Hill, who grew a passion early for the younger generation having opportunities they are looking for within the state, quickly noticed the trend of raising children in the state and having them head out to other places for their jobs.

“I believe that we have every resource here in this great state that a young person needs to thrive,” Hill said. “We have low cost of living. We have



Brian Hill
Oklahoma House of Representatives, Dist. 47

low cost of energy. A low cost of taxes, and on top of that, we have the friendliest people in the nation. So, there’s just so many things that we

have going for us, but we haven’t always been good at telling that story. I believe that having the right policies accomplished that goal. I believe that by investing in ourselves, that we can position our state to thrive in the good times even when things get rough nationally.”

Hill emphasized the importance of Oklahoma remaining open for business during the COVID pandemic, which saved thousands of small business owners struggling to get by.

When he was asked to consider running for office in 2018, the question of how to build Oklahoma strong kept coming back to mind.

“The last five years, that’s what’s gotten me up in the morning, and what’s kept me going at the Capitol is that belief that together we can build that type of future for our kids and our community,” Hill said.

In Oklahoma, representatives have a maximum of serving 12 years in office. Every two years, Hill has been up for reelection.

That means Hill has gone through three election cycles since assuming the role. His next election cycle would be in 2024.

“My family and I, each time when we’re coming back around for that, we take time as a family to talk about it and to pray about it,” Hill

said. “I make sure that my wife, my children, that we believe that it’s still what God’s called us to do. And at the point where we don’t, we’ll stop running and get out of the way. We believe that, much like everything else, whether opening a business or serving in ministry, that this is a calling on our lives. And we feel blessed to make that difference in our community.”

Hill has been focused on the workforce issues at the Capitol recently, and plans to continue work on ensuring education is provided for children to pursue goals and dreams. He also is working on issues regarding children

aging out of foster care.

Restorative workforce is also a focus, where Hill’s work is used to help ensure those coming out of incarceration are able to come out and get a job and a place to live.

“The facts show that if someone gets a job in the first 21 days of coming out of incarceration, they are 90% less likely to go back,” Hill said. “That saves us tax dollars... It makes it a stronger community for our law enforcement who serve. It’s little things like that, I believe, if we’ll continue to work on (it) we’ll continue to thrive.”

Brian Hill can be reached at his office by calling 405-557-7333.

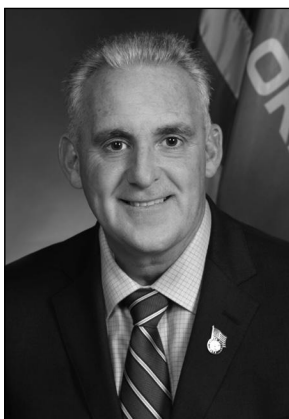
Rosino making progress with legislation at Capitol

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The Oklahoma Capitol has been bustling, and Mustang residents’ representation has been no different.

Sen. Paul Rosino has been focused on a few bills over the past year, with the work on his Biomarker bill going into effect on Jan. 1 of 2024. That bill is meant to help patients suffering with cancer, dementia, Alzheimer’s and multiple sclerosis by helping them get a biomarker test if there is medical necessity.

Biomarkers will not work for patients who start doing radiation, chemotherapy or allow injections into their body. That is due



Paul Rosino
Oklahoma Senate District 45

to the treatment changing the complexity of the tumor of a cell.

“If it’s medical necessity, and a patient can receive a biomarker test to ensure

that the proper medicine and procedure medicine is being treated,” Rosino said. “That’s a very big deal. We have led the way in Oklahoma. I have had two or three other states reach out to me to ask me for that legislation. And so, we have sent it to a couple other states for them to use it as an example.”

The idea for the bill came to Rosino through the American Cancer Society, who asked him to look and run the bill. As soon as he filed it, Rosino was contacted by OU’s Stephenson Cancer Center who supported the bill. Mercy Hospital and the hospital association also came and supported the bill.

“All the people in the

medical field that understand how important this is and what this means to patients in the future were 100% supportive and onboard,” Rosino said. “We really had no (opposition), even the insurance companies because it is a mandate that they cover it, but it’s only penny’s, even they didn’t fight us (on the policy).”

“...I hope someday people will look at that, and most people won’t even know I did it, but if a family member or someone gets treated for it and it saves their lives, or extends their lives, then it’s all worth it,” Rosino said.

Rosino also worked on a bill toward free tuition for Oklahomans who are

Gold Star family members of people who have lost their mom or dad in war. The bill was not passed this year as the legislative session ran out of time, but Rosino said he plans to continue working on it and get it passed in the future.

The bill would allow for the state to pay for their tuition once they have used any grants they may get or federal dollars.

“That’s a very big deal,” Rosino said. “We have several hundred Gold Star families in the state. And these kids are growing up without a parent because they went to serve our country and died for our country. That’s a big deal to me obviously with my background (Rosino

served 25 years with the U.S. Navy).”

The legislation would be for Oklahoma Schools, and will apply for both Higher Education and CareerTech. Rosino did emphasize how these families would still have to apply for federal grants, or whatever the federal government offers, but whatever is not covered would be covered by the state.

Rosino also serves as the Chair for the Health and Human Services Committee, and will be participating in 16 interim studies and making decisions on which ones he will hear.

Sen. Rosino can be reached at his office by calling 405-521-5618.