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Legislation

Senate approves Marissa Murrow Act; bill named for UCO student killed by drunk driver

OKLAHOMA CITY – The full Senate has given its approval to legislation to ensure greater accountability when alcohol is served at event venues. Sen. Paul Rosino is the principal author of Senate Bill 1057, creating the Marissa Murrow Act. Rosino, R-Oklahoma City,



Marissa Murrow

Rosino said there are currently some 3,000 event venues in the state, and under current statutes, they are not required to hold any kind of license in order for alcohol to be served at their locations. SB 1057 would stipulate that a caterer could not sell or distribute alcoholic

beverages on the premises unless the venue holds an event venue license from the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement (ABLE) Commission.

The Murrows watched from the Senate gallery as Rosino presented the legislation on the floor.

"We know that nothing's going to bring our daughter back, but our number one goal is to provide more safety so that someone else doesn't have to experience what we did," said Kristy Murrow. "It's an unthinkable thing, and if we can help someone else...that's what our goal is."

SB 1057 now moves to the House of Representatives. The House principal author is Rep. Jon Echols, R-Oklahoma City.



Jeff and Kristy Murrow look on from the Senate Gallery as members approve SB 1057, the Marissa Murrow Act, named for their daughter, who died after a head-on collision with a four-time drunk driver who had been drinking at an event venue. At left, Sen. Paul Rosino, R-Oklahoma City, principal Senate author of SB 1057, creating the Marissa Murrow Act. PHOTO PROVIDED