No true source of objective numbers

For decades, the only source of information was:

- Executive branch agencies
- Lobbyists
- Beneficiaries of state spending

Health Department scandal:

- $30 million slush fund
- Massive layoffs
- Took money from next budget year to fund
- Erodes public trust in all institutions
Checks & Balances

- Legislative branch needs the ability to hold executive branch accountable
- Sometimes, the numbers don’t add up even for the agencies
- Or they over simplify the data
- Or they exaggerate the...
• How much money is spent on a program?
Governor Signs Bill Addressing Cost Disparity between Oral, Intravenous Cancer Drugs

Gov. Mary Fallin has signed legislation to address pricing disparities between orally and intravenously administered cancer medications. Sen. Danute, author of Senate Bill 765, explained that due to certain insurance classifications, oral cancer medications may be far more costly for patients than intravenous treatments, even when the same medicines are used.

Treat said his legislation will establish parity in pricing for medications that can potentially save lives.

“Treat noted that oral medications in many cases fall under prescription drug classifications and are often included under medical coverage. As a result, they may be easily administered in the home, rather than in a hospital setting.”

Legislators praised the governor, saying, “This is a good bill that will bring us into line with the 340B program and with insurance the ability to access to FDA-approved chemotherapy drugs.”
Objective data and independent look at agency spending

Program evaluation

Help policymakers make data-driven decisions