

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 52

By: Newberry of the Senate

5 and

6 Morgan of the House

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8
9 AS INTRODUCED

10 A Concurrent Resolution declaring the official motto
11 of the State of Oklahoma to be: "Oklahoma - In God
12 We Trust!"

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14 WHEREAS, it has long been believed that "Labor Omnia Vincit", or
15 "Labor Conquers All Things", is the state motto. However, the
16 framers of the Oklahoma Constitution did not establish an official
17 state motto. Although it is described in the Constitution as part
18 of the description of the Great Seal of Oklahoma, there is no
19 indication that it was meant to indicate a state motto; and

20 WHEREAS, Oklahoma Motto, Inc., a nonprofit, bipartisan patriotic
21 group, has researched the issue and determined that our state has
22 never declared an official state motto. Their research of the
23 Oklahoma State Constitution discovered that the word "motto" does
24 not appear. They also researched the Oklahoma Statutes from the

1 beginning of statehood and could find no mention of establishing a
2 state motto for Oklahoma; and

3 WHEREAS, the origin of our national motto comes from the poem
4 "Defence of Fort M'Henry" by Francis Scott Key, containing the
5 phrase, "And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust!'" Set to the
6 tune of "Anacreon in Heaven", this became our national anthem, the
7 "Star Spangled Banner"; and

8 WHEREAS, while the words "In God We Trust" were added to United
9 States coins in 1864, it was not until 1956 that this phrase
10 replaced "E Pluribus Unum" as the United States national motto; and

11 WHEREAS, although the State of Florida adopted the phrase "In
12 God We Trust" as the official motto of their state in 2006, Oklahoma
13 Motto, Inc., believes that "Oklahoma - In God We Trust!" would be
14 both different and legal.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
16 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
17 CONCURRING THEREIN:

18 THAT the official motto of the State of Oklahoma is hereby
19 declared to be: "Oklahoma - In God We Trust!"

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21 52-2-3808 THC 3/22/2010 9:37:52 AM

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