

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 56

By: Lamb

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution declaring the official motto of the  
9 State of Oklahoma to be: "Oklahoma – In God We  
10 Trust!"

11  
12 WHEREAS, it has long been believed that "Labor Omnia Vincit" or  
13 "Labor Conquers All Things" is the state motto. However, the  
14 framers of the Oklahoma Constitution did not establish an official  
15 state motto. Although it is described in the Constitution as part  
16 of the description of the Great Seal of Oklahoma, there is no  
17 indication that it was meant to indicate a state motto; and

18 WHEREAS, Oklahoma Motto, Inc., a non-profit, bipartisan  
19 patriotic group, has researched the issue and determined that our  
20 State has never declared an official state motto. Their research of  
21 the Oklahoma State Constitution discovered the word "motto" does not  
22 appear. They also researched the Oklahoma Statutes from the  
23 beginning of statehood and could find no mention of establishing a  
24 state motto for Oklahoma; and

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

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

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

13       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION  
14 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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

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18       52-1-1915       THC       5/14/2009 1:39:10 PM

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