

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 89

By: Newberry

5
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 nonprofit, bipartisan patriotic
19 group, has researched the issue and determined that our state has
20 never declared an official state motto. Their research of the
21 Oklahoma State Constitution discovered that the word "motto" does
22 not 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 2ND 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!"

17
18 52-2-3755 THC 3/1/2010 6:21:10 PM

19
20
21
22
23
24