

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 CONCURRENT
6 RESOLUTION NO. 34

By: Ellis of the Senate

and

McDaniel (Curtis) of the
House

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11 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the Oklahoma
12 Colonial Spanish horse as the Official Heritage Horse
 of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

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15 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Colonial Spanish horse, which originated
16 from Spanish horses brought to the Americas with early settlers, is
17 unique in its genetics, history, geography and contributions to the
18 people of Oklahoma; and

19 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Colonial Spanish horse maintains 100
20 percent Spanish genetic markers and has been considered the purest
21 free-roaming Colonial Spanish horse in the United States, and since
22 1980 their genetics have been preserved in the foundation herds of
23 Bryant and Darlene Rickman of Southeastern Oklahoma; and

1 WHEREAS, thousands of these Spanish horses were relocated in the
2 19th century to Indian Territory when tribal peoples were removed
3 from their ancestral homes and were carefully bred and maintained by
4 families who treasured them as cultural remnants and practical
5 beasts of burden; and

6 WHEREAS, these horses hovered on the brink of extinction
7 following the Civil War and again in the 1970s; however, a number of
8 families closely guarded large herds, insuring their preservation
9 and preventing crossbreeding; and

10 WHEREAS, due to the movement and demise of most of these
11 families, numbers have dwindled, placing the horses on The Livestock
12 Conservancy's Conservation Priority List for livestock breeds in
13 danger of extinction; and

14 WHEREAS, according to the Southwest Spanish Mustang Association,
15 which works closely with The Livestock Conservancy to ensure the
16 purity and survival of the Oklahoma Colonial Spanish horse, 800 -
17 900 of these registered horses remain alive today; and

18 WHEREAS, with its rich heritage, resilience, and perseverance,
19 the Oklahoma Colonial Spanish horse embodies the very spirit of
20 Oklahoma and remains a living piece of state history.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
22 OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
23 CONCURRING THEREIN:

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1 THAT the Oklahoma Colonial Spanish horse be recognized as the
2 Official Heritage Horse of Oklahoma.

3 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
4 Department of Libraries and the designation of the Official Heritage
5 Horse of Oklahoma be included in the publication of the Oklahoma
6 Almanac.

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8 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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