

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 58

By: Shaw

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of  
8 the national motto; encouraging and supporting its  
9 public display.

10  
11 WHEREAS, the phrase "In God We Trust" was adopted as the  
12 official motto of the United States in 1956 after it was approved  
13 through a joint resolution by the 84th Congress and was signed by  
14 President Eisenhower on July 30, 1956, and which is now codified in  
15 36 U.S.C., Section 186; and

16 WHEREAS, the phrase was designed as an alternative to "E  
17 pluribus unum", which was the first unofficial motto originally used  
18 in 1782; and

19 WHEREAS, the phrase may have originated from the words of "The  
20 Star-Spangled Banner" written during the war of 1812, as the fourth  
21 stanza includes the phrase, "And this be our motto - In God is our  
22 trust"; and

23 WHEREAS, the motto first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864 and on  
24 paper currency in 1957; and

1       WHEREAS, from the crucible of the Civil War, Reverend M.R.  
2       Watkinson, in a letter dated November 13, 1861, petitioned the  
3       Treasury Department to add a statement recognizing, "Almighty God in  
4       some form on our coin". Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase acted on  
5       Watkinson's proposal and instructed the Director of the Philadelphia  
6       Mint, James Pollock, to begin work on designs that coined the  
7       phrase; and

8       WHEREAS, legislation was introduced and passed on April 22,  
9       1864, authorizing the inclusion of the phrase on one-cent and two-  
10      cent coins.

11      NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
12      OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

13      THAT members of the Oklahoma State Senate commemorate the 60th  
14      anniversary of the adoption of the national motto, "In God We  
15      Trust".

16      THAT members of the Oklahoma State Senate cultivate the public  
17      display of the national motto.

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