

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

HOUSE BILL 3243

By: Moore

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to definitions and general provisions; establishing formal method for retirement of state flags; explaining significance of features of the Oklahoma State Flag; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 91.4 of Title 25, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Retiring of an Oklahoma State Flag shall be conducted in the following manner:

1. Unfold the flag and recite the state salute: "I salute the flag of the State of Oklahoma. Its symbols of peace unite all people";

2. Recite the following: "This is an Oklahoma state flag. It has flown proudly over our state, but can fly no longer. The sun and winds have caused it to become tattered and torn. It is this flag's time to be retired respectfully"; and

1 3. Cut out the shield from the blue field. Place the blue
2 field in the flames followed by the shield, which should be placed
3 in spread out and facing up.

4 B. The blue field, inspired by the 1860 Choctaw flag carried in
5 the Civil War, signifies devotion. The Osage shield signifies
6 defensive warfare, but is surmounted and subservient to the calumet
7 and olive branch denoting a love of peace by a united people. The
8 calumet represents the Native Americans and the olive branch the
9 European Americans. The six golden crosses are Native American
10 symbols for stars and indicate closeness to the creator, which
11 symbolizes higher purposes in Native American culture. The seven
12 pendant feathers symbolize seven ways of learning and the seven
13 sources of teachings to reach the side of the creator.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.

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