

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 3261

By: Randleman of the House

3 and

4 Stephens of the Senate

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6  
7 An Act relating to definitions and general  
8 provisions; providing history of the American Quarter  
9 Horse; designating the American Quarter Horse as the  
10 state horse of Oklahoma; providing for  
11 noncodification; providing for codification; and  
12 providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
15 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

16 The American Quarter Horse shall be designated as the state  
17 horse of Oklahoma. The American Quarter Horse's name is derived  
18 from its ability to outrun other horse breeds in races of one-  
19 quarter (1/4) mile or less; some have been clocked at speeds of up  
20 to fifty-five (55) miles per hour. In addition, the American  
21 Quarter Horse is known as a quick and smart cow horse and is the  
22 most popular breed of horse in the United States today. For nearly  
23 fifty (50) years, the American Quarter Horse Association has held  
24 its world championship show in Oklahoma City. The Colonial Spanish  
Horse of Oklahoma has deeply rich ties to the American Quarter

1 Horse. The Colonial Spanish Horse was brought to America in the  
2 1500s by the Spanish conquistadors. These were pure Spanish  
3 Mustangs, a relatively small but tough breed of horse. After the  
4 introduction of these horses to Native American tribes, the horses  
5 became essential to the tribes, who began to rely heavily on them  
6 for their travels during times of war and hardship, as well as for  
7 hunting. In addition, the Native American tribes utilized the  
8 Colonial Spanish Horse to traverse the Trail of Tears. The Colonial  
9 Spanish Horse of Oklahoma is the only native horse in the state and  
10 has the purest bloodline. There is evidence that the Spanish  
11 Mustangs obtained from the Native American tribes were crossed with  
12 the English colonists' stock as early as the year 1611. The product  
13 of this breeding would come to be known as the American Quarter  
14 Horse. Currently, Oklahoma is fifth in the nation in total horse  
15 numbers, behind only Texas, California, Florida, and Ohio. Horses  
16 in Oklahoma are used for diverse purposes with forty-four percent  
17 (44%) being privately owned, seventeen percent (17%) used for  
18 showing, and seventeen percent (17%) for racing. The predominant  
19 horse breed in Oklahoma is the American Quarter Horse. The American  
20 Horse Council estimates about one hundred four thousand (104,000)  
21 American Quarter Horses were in Oklahoma in 2017. Oklahoma was  
22 listed second in the United States in total American Quarter Horse  
23 numbers. For the reasons listed above, the American Quarter Horse  
24 deserves to be designated as the state horse of Oklahoma.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 94.17 of Title 25, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The American Quarter Horse is hereby designated and adopted as the state horse of Oklahoma.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

Passed the House of Representatives the 23rd day of March, 2022.

Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate