

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 3261

By: Randleman of the House

and

7 **Stephens** of the Senate

8
9
10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to definitions and general
12 provisions; providing history of the American Quarter
13 Horse; designating the American Quarter Horse as the
14 state horse of Oklahoma; providing for
15 noncodification; providing for codification; and
16 providing an effective date.

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

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

20 The American Quarter Horse shall be designated as the state
21 horse of Oklahoma. The American Quarter Horse's name is derived
22 from its ability to outrun other horse breeds in races of one-
23 quarter (1/4) mile or less; some have been clocked at speeds of up
24 to fifty-five (55) miles per hour. In addition, the American
 Quarter Horse is known as a quick and smart cow horse and is the

1 most popular breed of horse in the United States today. For nearly
2 fifty (50) years, the American Quarter Horse Association has held
3 its world championship show in Oklahoma City. The Colonial Spanish
4 Horse of Oklahoma has deeply rich ties to the American Quarter
5 Horse. The Colonial Spanish Horse was brought to America in the
6 1500s by the Spanish conquistadors. These were pure Spanish
7 Mustangs, a relatively small but tough breed of horse. After the
8 introduction of these horses to Native American tribes, the horses
9 became essential to the tribes, who began to rely heavily on them
10 for their travels during times of war and hardship, as well as for
11 hunting. In addition, the Native American tribes utilized the
12 Colonial Spanish Horse to traverse the Trail of Tears. The Colonial
13 Spanish Horse of Oklahoma is the only native horse in the state and
14 has the purest bloodline. There is evidence that the Spanish
15 Mustangs obtained from the Native American tribes were crossed with
16 the English colonists' stock as early as the year 1611. The product
17 of this breeding would come to be known as the American Quarter
18 Horse. Currently, Oklahoma is fifth in the nation in total horse
19 numbers, behind only Texas, California, Florida, and Ohio. Horses
20 in Oklahoma are used for diverse purposes with forty-four percent
21 (44%) being privately owned, seventeen percent (17%) used for
22 showing, and seventeen percent (17%) for racing. The predominant
23 horse breed in Oklahoma is the American Quarter Horse. The American
24 Horse Council estimates about one hundred four thousand (104,000)

1 American Quarter Horses were in Oklahoma in 2017. Oklahoma was
2 listed second in the United States in total American Quarter Horse
3 numbers. For the reasons listed above, the American Quarter Horse
4 deserves to be designated as the state horse of Oklahoma.

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

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

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

11
12 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
13 dated 03/02/2022 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24