

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

HOUSE BILL 3261

By: Randleman

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to definitions and general provisions; providing history of the American Quarter Horse and Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma; designating the American Quarter Horse and the Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma as the state horses of Oklahoma; providing for noncodification; 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 not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

The American Quarter Horse's name is derived from its ability to outrun other horse breeds in races of one-quarter (1/4) mile or less; some have been clocked at speeds of up 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 most popular breed of horse in the United States today. For nearly fifty (50) years, the American Quarter Horse Association has held its world championship show in Oklahoma City. The Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma has deeply rich ties to the American Quarter Horse. The Colonial

1 Spanish Horse was brought to America in the 1500s by the Spanish  
2 conquistadors. These were pure Spanish Mustangs, a relatively small  
3 but tough breed of horse. After the introduction of these horses to  
4 Native American tribes, the horses became essential to the tribes,  
5 and they began to rely heavily on them for their travels during  
6 times of war and hardship, as well as for hunting. In addition, the  
7 Native American tribes utilized the Colonial Spanish Horse to  
8 traverse the Trail of Tears. The Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma  
9 is the only native horse in the state and has the purest bloodline.  
10 There is evidence that the Spanish Mustangs obtained from the Native  
11 American tribes were crossed with the English colonists' stock as  
12 early as the year 1611. Over the next one hundred fifty (150)  
13 years, the product of this breeding would come to be known as the  
14 American Quarter Horse. Currently, Oklahoma is fifth in the nation  
15 in total horse members, behind only Texas, California, Florida, and  
16 Ohio. Horses in Oklahoma are used for diverse purposes with forty-  
17 four percent (44%) being privately owned, seventeen percent (17%)  
18 used for showing, and seventeen percent (17%) for racing. The  
19 predominant horse breed in Oklahoma is the American Quarter Horse.  
20 The American Horse Council estimates about one hundred four thousand  
21 (104,000) American Quarter Horses were in Oklahoma in 2017.  
22 Oklahoma was listed second in the United States in total American  
23 Quarter Horse numbers. For the reasons listed above, the American  
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1 Quarter Horse and the Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma deserve to  
2 be designated as the state horses of Oklahoma.

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 98.20 of Title 25, unless there  
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 The American Quarter Horse and the Colonial Spanish Horse of  
7 Oklahoma are hereby designated and adopted as the state horses of  
8 Oklahoma.

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

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