

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1636

By: Stephens

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to state emblems; providing history
8 of the American Quarter Horse and Colonial Spanish
9 Horse of Oklahoma; designating the American Quarter
10 Horse the state horse; providing for noncodification;
11 providing for codification; and providing an
12 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's name is derived from its ability to
17 outrun other horse breeds in races of one-quarter (1/4) mile or
18 less; some have been clocked at speeds of up to fifty-five (55)
19 miles per hour. In addition, the American Quarter Horse is known as
20 a quick and smart cow horse and is the most popular breed of horse
21 in the United States today. For nearly fifty (50) years, the
22 American Quarter Horse Association has held its world championship
23 show in Oklahoma City.

24 The Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma has deep, rich ties to
the American Quarter Horse. The Colonial Spanish Horse was brought

1 to America in the 1500s by the Spanish conquistadors. These were
2 pure Spanish Mustangs, a relatively small but tough breed of horse.
3 After the introduction of these horses to Native American tribes,
4 the horses became essential to the tribes, and they began to rely
5 heavily on them for their travels during times of war and hardship,
6 as well as for hunting. In addition, the Native American tribes
7 utilized the Colonial Spanish Horse to traverse the Trail of Tears.
8 The Colonial Spanish Horse of Oklahoma is the only native horse and
9 has the purest bloodline in the state. There is evidence that the
10 Spanish Mustangs obtained from the Native American tribes were
11 crossed with the English colonists' stock as early as the year 1611.
12 The product of this breeding would come to be known as the American
13 Quarter Horse.

14 Currently, Oklahoma is fifth in the nation in total horse
15 members, behind only Texas, California, Florida, and Ohio. Horses
16 in Oklahoma are used for diverse purposes with forty-four percent
17 (44%) privately owned, seventeen percent (17%) used for showing, and
18 seventeen percent (17%) used for racing. The predominant horse
19 breed in Oklahoma is the American Quarter Horse. The American Horse
20 Council estimates about one hundred four thousand (104,000) American
21 Quarter Horses were in Oklahoma in 2017. Oklahoma was listed second
22 in the United States in total number of American Quarter Horses.
23 For the reasons listed above, the American Quarter Horse deserves to
24 be designated as the state horse of Oklahoma.

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SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 98.21 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 the State of Oklahoma.

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

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