

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 29

By: Boren

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution observing the long friendship between Oklahoma and Ireland; commemorating the celebration of St. Patrick's Day; commemorating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Ireland and the United States; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Oklahoma and Ireland have enjoyed a long friendship that predates Oklahoma's statehood and Ireland's independence. In 1846, just a few years after the Trail of Tears, the Choctaw people, learning of the Irish famine, donated \$170.00, a fortune at the time, especially after enduring their own hardships, in order to help the Irish people; and

WHEREAS, Ireland commemorated that gift with the dedication of the Kindred Spirits sculpture, featuring a circle of eagle feathers, in County Cork in 2017. The Choctaw Nation announced plans in 2023 to erect a tribute to their connection with Ireland, the Eternal Heart sculpture, depicting a Celtic Trinity knot intertwined with a heart; and

WHEREAS, many Oklahomans have Irish ancestry and continue to celebrate that culture through traditional music, dance, and food,

1 and through festivals and celebrations, particularly in March,
2 including the Tulsa Irish Fest, ShamROCK the Gardens in Oklahoma
3 City, and the Stockyards St. Patrick's Parade, as well as other
4 celebrations throughout the state; and

5 WHEREAS, all Oklahomans are Irish on March 17, St. Patrick's
6 Day, honoring the Patron Saint of Ireland and celebrating Irish
7 heritage; and

8 WHEREAS, Oklahoma joins other states throughout the country in
9 celebrating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between
10 Ireland and the United States, which officially began on October 7,
11 1924.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
13 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

14 THAT the Oklahoma Senate recognizes the state's long history and
15 friendship with Ireland.

16 THAT the Oklahoma Senate commemorates March 17 as St. Patrick's
17 Day.

18 THAT Oklahoma commemorates the 100th anniversary of diplomatic
19 relations between Ireland and the United States.

20 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Senator Mark
21 Daly, Chair of the Senate of Ireland.

22
23 59-2-3623

MB

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