

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 HOUSE JOINT
4 RESOLUTION 1028

By: Roberts

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
8 to refer to the people for their approval or
9 rejection a proposed amendment to the Constitution of
10 the State of Oklahoma by adding a new section to
11 Article X to be designated as Section 44; creating
12 the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund; providing
13 for funding source; requiring funds to be expended
14 only for veteran-related purposes; designating funds
15 to be administered by the Oklahoma Veterans Trust
16 Fund Board of Governors; providing for membership;
17 prohibiting Legislature from using funds to supplant
18 other funding; directing the State Board of
19 Equalization to examine and investigate
20 appropriations annually; requiring appropriation if
21 certain funds are determined to have been supplanted;
22 providing ballot title; and directing filing.

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE
24 1ST SESSION OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of
Oklahoma by adding a new Section 44 to Article X thereof, to read as
follows:

1 A. There is hereby created a trust fund to be known as the
2 "Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund". The trust fund shall
3 consist of funds transferred to it from the Oklahoma Veterans
4 Lottery game.

5 B. Monies in the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund shall
6 only be expended for the following purposes:

7 1. Grants to congressionally-chartered veterans service
8 organizations within the state for operational funding related to
9 youth education programs, assisting veterans in need, and providing
10 service officer funding;

11 2. Grants to individual veterans registered with the Oklahoma
12 Veterans Registry, widows or widowers of veterans, or family members
13 designated as a caretaker by the Department of Veterans Affairs for
14 use during catastrophic emergencies;

15 3. Grants for funding indigent veteran funerals when all other
16 means of funding have been attempted or exhausted; and

17 4. Grants for veteran outreach programs where veteran
18 attendance is greater than fifty percent (50%) of the total
19 attendance to supplement funding needed for operational costs
20 directly related to the programs.

21 C. Funds deposited in the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund
22 shall be administered by the Oklahoma Veterans Trust Fund Board of
23 Governors. The Board of Governors shall consist of eight (8)
24 members, one (1) member from each of the following veteran service

1 organizations: Disabled American Veterans, American Legion,
2 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam
3 Veterans of America, and Military Order of the Purple Heart and two
4 additional members appointed by the Oklahoma Veterans Council.
5 Chartered organizations in good standing with the Secretary of State
6 of Oklahoma shall appoint their members and an alternate to the
7 Board of Governors for a term of two (2) years. No member shall
8 serve more than three terms.

9 D. The Legislature shall appropriate funds from the Oklahoma
10 Veterans Lottery Trust Fund only for the purposes specified in
11 subsection B of this section. The Legislature shall not use funds
12 from the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund to supplant or replace
13 other state funds supporting the military, veterans, or their
14 families.

15 E. In order to ensure that the funds from the trust fund are
16 used to enhance and not supplant funding for the military, veterans
17 or their families, the State Board of Equalization shall examine and
18 investigate appropriations from the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust
19 Fund each year. At the meeting of the State Board of Equalization
20 held within five (5) days after the monthly apportionment in
21 February of each year, the State Board of Equalization shall issue a
22 finding and report, which shall state whether appropriations from
23 the trust fund were used to enhance or supplant military, veteran,
24 or their families' funding. If the State Board of Equalization

1 finds that funding for military, veterans, or their families was
2 supplanted by the funds from the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust
3 Fund, the State Board of Equalization shall specify the amount of
4 funding that was supplanted. If funding is found to have been
5 supplanted, the Legislature shall not make any appropriations for
6 the ensuing fiscal year until an appropriation in the supplanted
7 fund amount is made to replenish the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust
8 Fund.

9 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional
10 amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in
11 the following form:

12 BALLOT TITLE

13 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

14 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

15 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It adds a
16 new Section 44 to Article 10. This measure would create the
17 Oklahoma Veterans Lottery Trust Fund. The trust fund shall
18 consist of monies from the Oklahoma Veterans Lottery game.
19 The monies of the trust fund shall only be used for certain
20 veteran-related purposes. Trust funds shall be administered
21 by the Oklahoma Veterans Trust Fund Board of Governors.
22 Board of Governors members shall be chosen by veteran
23 service organizations and the Oklahoma Veterans Council.
24 The monies in the trust fund shall not be used by the

1 Legislature to replace other state funds used to support
2 veterans. The State Board of Equalization shall determine
3 if any trust funds are being used to replace state funding
4 for veterans. If funding is found to have been replaced,
5 the Legislature shall not make any appropriations until the
6 amount of replaced funding is returned to the trust fund.

7 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

8 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

9 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

10 SECTION 3. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,
11 immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and
12 file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in
13 SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the
14 Attorney General.

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