

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 1745

By: Jett

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to an Oklahoma Day of Prayer;  
8 creating the Oklahoma Day of Prayer Act; providing  
9 short title; providing legislative findings;  
10 designating the Oklahoma Day of Prayer; requiring  
11 Governor to issue certain proclamation; prohibiting  
certain action; construing provisions; providing for  
noncodification; providing for codification;  
providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

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

17 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma  
18 Day of Prayer Act".

19 B. The Legislature finds that:

20 1. The National Day of Prayer is a long-standing tradition  
21 observed annually on the first Thursday in May, as established by  
22 joint resolution of the United States Congress in 1952 and amended  
23 in 1988;

1       2. The President of the United States has issued an annual  
2 proclamation designating the first Thursday in May as the National  
3 Day of Prayer, calling upon Americans of all faiths and backgrounds  
4 to engage in voluntary prayer, meditation, or reflection;

5       3. Prayer and spiritual reflection have played a significant  
6 role in the history and culture of this state and the United States  
7 since their founding; and

8       4. This state has a compelling interest in acknowledging and  
9 preserving its historical and cultural heritage while respecting the  
10 religious freedom of all citizens.

11       SECTION 2.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.31 of Title 25, unless there  
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14       A. The first Thursday in May is hereby designated as the  
15 "Oklahoma Day of Prayer".

16       B. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation:

17           1. Recognizing the Oklahoma Day of Prayer;

18           2. Encouraging citizens, consistent with their individual  
19 beliefs, to engage in prayer, meditation, or personal reflection on  
20 that day;

21           3. Calling for voluntary participation by residents, community  
22 organizations, and faith-based groups in observances that respect  
23 the diversity of religious expression in this state; and

1       4. Inviting local governments, schools, and civic organizations  
2 to acknowledge the day in a manner consistent with the First  
3 Amendment to the United States Constitution.

4       C. Participation in any Oklahoma Day of Prayer observance shall  
5 be entirely voluntary. No state agency, political subdivision,  
6 public school, or public institution shall compel any person to  
7 participate in religious exercise or penalize any person for  
8 choosing not to participate.

9       D. Nothing in this act shall be construed to:

10       1. Endorse or establish any religion;  
11       2. Prohibit or restrict private religious expression; or  
12       3. Require the expenditure of public funds beyond the issuance  
13 of the Governor's proclamation and minimal administrative costs.

14       SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

15       SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
16 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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