

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 1018

By: Lepak of the House

and

Rosino of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution honoring His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, the first American Pope; recognizing his distinguished service, global leadership, and moral courage; and acknowledging his personal connection to the State of Oklahoma through his service at Cascia Hall in Tulsa.

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2025, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, O.S.A., was elected by the College of Cardinals to serve as the 267th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, taking the name Leo XIV, and becoming the first American citizen in history to hold the papacy; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in the United States and ordained to the priesthood in 1982, Pope Leo XIV has spent his life in service to others, with assignments across the globe, from Peru to Rome to the American Midwest — always emphasizing faith, service, and moral conviction; and

1 WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2001, Pope Leo XIV served on the Board of
2 Directors of Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa, Oklahoma,
3 contributing to the spiritual and academic life of a respected
4 institution in our state and leaving a legacy of guidance and
5 integrity that still resonates with those who served alongside him;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV's election is not only a historic
8 milestone for the Catholic Church, but a moment of great pride for
9 all Americans, regardless of faith – a testament to the enduring
10 influence of American values, religious freedom, and leadership on
11 the global stage; and

12 WHEREAS, throughout his ministry, Pope Leo XIV has demonstrated
13 a consistent commitment to the dignity of every human life, the
14 importance of strong families, and a call to serve the least among
15 us, values that resonate across faith traditions and reflect
16 timeless truths shared by millions of Americans; and

17 WHEREAS, in a world marked by moral drift and cultural
18 confusion, his election signals a voice of clarity, courage, and
19 conviction in leadership, rooted not in political fashion, but in
20 eternal principles.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
22 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
23 CONCURRING THEREIN:
24

1 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma
2 State Senate honor and commend His Holiness Pope Leo XIV as the
3 first American Pope, recognizing his leadership, humility, and moral
4 clarity, and acknowledging with gratitude his contribution to the
5 State of Oklahoma during his years of service at Cascia Hall in
6 Tulsa.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be
8 delivered to the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See in Washington,
9 D.C., and to Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa as a reminder
10 of the profound connections that bind even global moments of history
11 to the everyday communities of our great state.

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