

Resolution

ENROLLED HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. 1064

By: Roberts (Sean), Armes, Banz, Bennett, Biggs, Billy, Blackwell, Brown, Brumbaugh, Cannaday, Casey, Christian, Cleveland, Cockroft, Condit, Coody, Cooksey, Cox, Dank, Denney, Derby, DeWitt, Dorman, Echols, Enns, Fisher, Floyd, Fourkiller, Glenn, Grau, Hall, Hamilton, Hardin, Henke, Hickman, Hoskin, Hulbert, Inman, Jackson, Johnson, Jordan, Joyner, Kern, Kirby, Kouplén, Lockhart, Martin (Scott), Martin (Steve), Matthews, McBride, McCall, McCullough, McDaniel (Curtis), McDaniel (Jeannie), McDaniel (Randy), McNiel, McPeak, Moore, Morrissette, Mulready, Murphey, Nelson, Newell, Nollan, O'Donnell, Ortega, Osborn, Ownbey, Perryman, Peterson, Pittman, Proctor, Pruett, Quinn, Renegar, Reynolds, Ritze, Roberts (Dustin), Rousselot, Russ, Sanders, Schwartz, Scott, Sears, Shannon, Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Smalley, Stiles, Thomsen, Trebilcock, Turner, Vaughan, Virgin, Walker, Watson, Wesselhoft, Williams, Wood and Wright

A Resolution recognizing the year 2014 as the 60th anniversary of "under God" addition to the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

WHEREAS, the goal of the pledge, as conceived and promoted by James B. Upham, was "to instill into the minds of our American youth a love for their country and the principles on which it was founded, and create in them an ambition to carry on with the ideals which the early Founders wrote in The Constitution"; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 1954, Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan introduced a bill in the United States Congress to amend the Pledge of Allegiance by adding the words "under God" to the text of the pledge; and

WHEREAS, February 10, 1954, was chosen as the date to introduce the bill by Senator Ferguson to recognize the five-year anniversary of the imprisonment of Cardinal Joseph Mindszenty of Hungary who was imprisoned and tortured by Communists for his sermons exposing the goal of Communism to eradicate all religion; and

WHEREAS, speeches were delivered in Congress by members of both political parties honoring Cardinal Mindszenty and emphasizing the threat posed to America by Communism; and

WHEREAS, upon introduction of the bill, Senator Ferguson commented "I believe this modification of the pledge is important because it highlights one of the real fundamental differences between the free world and the Communist world, namely, belief in God", furthering that with "Our nation is founded on a fundamental belief in God, and the first and most important reason for the existence of our Government is to protect the God-given rights of our citizens."; and

WHEREAS, the vote to add "under God" to the United States Pledge of Allegiance was a unanimous vote; and

WHEREAS, on February 7, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower became convinced that adding the words "under God" to the United States Pledge of Allegiance would be the right thing to do after hearing Reverend George Docherty preach that the phrase "nation under God" was first used in the Gettysburg Address and was appropriate to be added to the United States Pledge of Allegiance because freedom "is defined by a fundamental belief in God"; and

WHEREAS, the first time the United States Pledge of Allegiance was recited with the phrase "under God" was on Flag Day, June 14, 1954; and

WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan said "If we ever forget we are one nation under God, we will become a nation gone under"; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Oklahoma House of Representatives to recognize and honor such an important date which

strengthens the ties of history that bind us to our Christian heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes the year 2014 as the 60th anniversary of the addition of the words "under God" to the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2014.



Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 16th day of May, 20 14, at 10:53 o'clock A. M.
By: Chit Bengt