

Resolution

ENROLLED HOUSE
RESOLUTION NO. 1063

By: Kern, Derby, Ritze, Coody
(Ann), Faught, Inman,
Rousselot, Osborn, Strohm,
Billy, Brumbaugh, Moore,
Cooksey, Johnson, Bennett,
Wright, Wesselhoft, Nelson,
Condit, Peterson, Proctor,
Newell, Fisher, Roberts
(Sean), Sherrer, Denney,
Hoskin and Grau

A Resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of the national motto; and supporting and encouraging its public display.

WHEREAS, "*In God We Trust*" was adopted as the official motto of the United States in 1956. The law making this phrase the national motto passed through a joint resolution by the 84th Congress and was signed by President Eisenhower on July 30, 1956, and is now codified in 36 U.S.C., Section 186; and

WHEREAS, the phrase was designed as an alternative to *E pluribus unum*, which was the unofficial motto first used in 1782 when the Great Seal of the United States was also created; and

WHEREAS, the phrase may have originated from the words of "The Star-Spangled Banner" written during the War of 1812, as the fourth stanza includes the phrase, "*And this be our motto - In God is our trust*"; and

WHEREAS, the motto first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864 and on paper currency in 1957 (a one-dollar silver certificate); and

WHEREAS, Chief Historian at Antietam National Battlefield, Ted Alexander, maintains the motto was first used by the 125th Pennsylvania Infantry as a battle cry on September 17, 1862. From

the crucible of the Civil War, the Reverend M.R. Watkinson, in a letter dated November 13, 1861, petitioned the Treasury Department to add a statement recognizing, "Almighty God in some form in our coin", perhaps as a declaration that God was on the Union side. Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase acted on Watkinson's proposal and directed the Director of the Philadelphia Mint, James Pollock, to begin work on potential designs that included the phrase; and

WHEREAS, due to an Act of Congress dated January 18, 1837, mottoes and devices that are placed on U.S. coins had to first be prescribed by enacting additional legislation. Such legislation was introduced and passed on April 22, 1864, allowing the Secretary of the Treasury to authorize the inclusion of the phrase on one-cent and two-cent coins; and

WHEREAS, the use of "In God We Trust" has not been continuous since its inception. In 2006, on the 50th anniversary of its adoption, the U.S. Senate reaffirmed the phrase as the official national motto and in 2011, the U.S. House of Representatives passed House Concurrent Resolution 13 in an additional reaffirming vote of 396-9.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives commemorate the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the national motto "*In God We Trust*".

THAT members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives support and encourage the public display of the national motto.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 26th day of April, 2016.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 27th
day of April, 2016, at 2:14 o'clock P. M.
By: