

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1029

By: Bennett and McBride

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution observing the long friendship between
10 Oklahoma and Ireland; commemorating the celebration
11 of St. Patrick's Day; commemorating the 100th
 anniversary of diplomatic relations between Ireland
 and the United States; and directing distribution.

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15 WHEREAS, Oklahoma and Ireland have enjoyed a long friendship
16 that predates Oklahoma's statehood and Ireland's independence. In
17 1846, just a few years after the Trail of Tears, the Choctaw people,
18 learning of the Irish famine, donated \$170, a fortune at the time,
19 especially after enduring their own hardships, in order to help the
20 Irish people; and

21 WHEREAS, Ireland commemorated that gift with the dedication of
22 the Kindred Spirits sculpture, featuring a circle of eagle feathers,
23 in County Cork in 2017. The Choctaw Nation announced plans in 2023
24 to erect a tribute to their connection with Ireland, the Eternal

1 Heart sculpture, depicting a Celtic Trinity knot intertwined with a
2 heart; and

3 WHEREAS, many Oklahomans have Irish ancestry and continue to
4 celebrate that culture through traditional music, dance, and food,
5 and through festivals and celebrations, particularly in March,
6 including the Tulsa Irish Fest, ShamROCK the Gardens in Oklahoma
7 City, and the Stockyards' St. Patrick's Parade, as well as other
8 celebrations throughout the state; and,

9 WHEREAS, all Oklahomans are Irish on March 17, St. Patrick's
10 Day, honoring the Patron Saint of Ireland and celebrating Irish
11 heritage; and

12 WHEREAS, Oklahoma joins other states throughout the country in
13 celebrating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between
14 Ireland and the United States, which officially began on October 7,
15 1924.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
17 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

18 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes the
19 state's long history and friendship with Ireland.

20 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives commemorates March 17
21 as St. Patrick's Day.

22 THAT Oklahoma commemorates the 100th anniversary of diplomatic
23 relations between Ireland and the United States.

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1 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Senator Mark
2 Daly, Chair of the Senate of Ireland.

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4 DIRECT TO CALENDAR

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