

2011 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1346

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1346
January 27, 2011
13562

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Carmen Hart

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the state Latin motto

Minutes:

Chairman Bette Grande opened the hearing on HB 1346.

Rep. Joe Heilman, District 45, appeared in support of HB 1346. **Attachment 1.**

Grant Kraft, Gabriel Christian, Chris Deal, Erin Stangeland, Kaia Nygord, Malena Mastel, Kathy Strand, Fargo North High students, and David Volk, Latin Teacher at Fargo North High School appeared in support. **Attachment 2.**

The following questions were asked of Erin Stangeland.

Rep. Lonny Winrich: Which state has an Italian motto?

Erin Stangeland: I did not put that one on there because I didn't feel it was of the utmost importance, but it was there. I am not positive which one it is.

Rep. Lonny Winrich: I was guessing either Massachusetts or New Jersey.

Rep. Lisa Meier: How did you come upon picking this for your motto?

Erin Stangeland: It was early October and a couple of us were just together with our teacher. We were just throwing out ideas and we had lots of fun stuff. We really looked at the agricultural part of our state and what could fully describe our state. We wanted something that would show our agriculture and something that would describe our state but not as our English motto does. We wanted something that would tell about our future and what we are going to do. We actually took this quote from Cicero which the later speakers are going to touch more in depth on. That is kind of our process.

The following questions were asked of David Volk.

Vice Chairman Randy Boehning: Rep. Heilman said there was a misspelling in the current bill.

David Volk: Yes. I take responsibility. In the Cicero quotation, my favorite quotation for years and that is why I threw it out and the kids liked that quotation, but we thought to be appropriate for North Dakota we should make the switch because it is more than trees that we plant here. In my head as I typed that out when he asked for the motto, I had the old motto and typed prosint instead of prosit. In Latin the prosint reflected to trees, that the trees they are a benefit and nt stands for a they. The way we are doing it the planting represents it, the act of planting and so in Latin to say it the verb has to end in a t.

Rep. Glen Froseth: In the testimony I noticed that several of the names of students are probably Scandinavian, and they refer to their grandfathers immigrating to this country and never once was it mentioned where they immigrated from. North Dakota as a whole is more Scandinavian than any other nationality so why did you choose a Latin theme in place of a Scandinavian motto for North Dakota?

David Volk: As you heard Erin say, other states have another motto, and I think it would be appropriate. I think we should have a German motto and a Scandinavian one ultimately, but at this point I think if we look at the history of our country, as you heard many of them say, Latin goes even farther back in our roots. Roman civilization is so important to the roots of our nation's government, laws, literature, language, arts, etc. We are looking at the deepest of the roots at this point, but I think if you want to look at that for the future, I will support that one too.

Rep. Glen Froseth: Just a comment. That clears up a lot. This would not be just the motto, it would be a motto?

David Volk: Right. As you hear Erin mention, many of the states do have and in the United States In God We Trust, but then the other mottos that we have on our coinage, dollars, etc. the E Pluribus Unum, out of very many one. Note, they went for a phrase that had 13 letters to signify the 13 colonies. Then the Novus Ordo Seclorum, that's seclorum on the back of your dollar bill that is a different form of the same word that we are using on the saeclo which means a generation or age. Also going to the United States, the fact that he looked down upon our undertakings or beginnings. They are all three different meanings behind them. We are not proposing get rid of the old. We are suggesting that we give a mission statement. The English motto is a wonderful descriptor of the state, and this would be like a mission statement type of thing.

Chairman Bette Grande: Does Mary know you wore all these old clothes today?

David Volk: Yeah, she does. I did it one other time. I had the distinct honor of representing our state as the Teacher of the Year in 2004 and this is also what I wore when I accepted that wonderful honor.

Rep. Karen Karls said something in Latin.

David Volk: Mary had a little lamb.

Rep. Karen Karls: I too am a former Latin student, and you kids have sure learned a lot more than I did. Thanks for coming.

Chairman Bette Grande: Latin was my foreign language of choice too.

There was no one neutral or in opposition of this bill.

The hearing was closed.

Rep. Lonny Winrich: The intern passed me a note. I would have lost my bet. Maryland is the state with an Italian motto. Its English translation is manly deeds, womanly words. I think that's perhaps in line with the current call for civility. I move for a **Do Pass**.

Vice Chairman Randy Boehning: We need to amend first.

Rep. Lonny Winrich: I withdraw my motion.

Vice Chairman Randy Boehning: I move to amend Line 7 to change the word prosint to prosit.

Rep. Mark Sanford seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Rep. Lonny Winrich made a motion for a **Do Pass as amended**.

Rep. Karen Karls seconded the motion.

DO PASS AS AMENDED, 11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT. Rep. Karen Karls is the carrier of this bill.

January 27, 2011

VK
1/28/11

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1346

Page 1, line 7, replace "prosint" with "prosit"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 1-27-11
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1346

House GOVERNMENT AND VETERAN AFFAIRS Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken ☐ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☒ Adopt Amendment

☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep Boehning Seconded By Rep Sanford

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Bette Grande			Bill Amerman		
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning			Ron Guggisberg		
Glen Froseth			Lonny Winrich		
Karen Karls					
Lisa Meier					
Gary Paur					
Karen Rohr					
Mark Sanford					
Vicky Steiner					
Roscoe Streyle					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*voice vote
to amend
line 7 by
striking the
word present
& replace with
prosit
motion
Carried*

Date: 1-27-11
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1346

House GOVERNMENT AND VETERAN AFFAIRS Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☒ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment

☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep Winrich Seconded By Rep Karls

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Bette Grande	✓		Bill Amerman	✓	
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning	✓		Ron Guggisberg	✓	
Glen Froseth	✓		Lonny Winrich	✓	
Karen Karls	✓				
Lisa Meier					
Gary Paur					
Karen Rohr	✓				
Mark Sanford	✓				
Vicky Steiner	✓				
Roscoe Streyle	✓				

Total (Yes) 11 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep Karls

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1346: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Grande, Chairman)
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends
DO PASS (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1346 was placed
on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 7, replace "prosint" with "prosit"

Renumber accordingly

2011 SENATE EDUCATION

HB 1346

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Education Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

HB 1346
March 16, 2011
15508

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the state Latin motto.

Minutes:

See "attached testimony."

Chairman Freborg opened the hearing on HB 1346; no fiscal note attached.

Representative Heilman, District 45 introduced the bill which would create a new state Latin motto for North Dakota. Originated in Fargo North Latin teacher's class about the fact there is no motto; thought of one that they felt was very fitting. Wondered how the process would work to get one in North Dakota so he researched for them and introduced the bill.

Grant Kraft, student (#1 Testimony-part 1)

Senator Flakoll: He is curious about the motto; was it inspired by anything biblical; where did the idea come from? **Grant Kraft:** They decided to go with this quote based off a translation from Cicero but kind of worked it out more to suit North Dakota (translation from Cicero is "one plants trees for the benefit of another age). Took out the word trees to keep it broader to the ideals of North Dakota.

Senator Gary Lee: Where would see this motto displayed or how used? **Grant Kraft:** Ideally on the state seal some day; but for now on brochures, stationary, etc.

Erin Stangeland, student (#1 Testimony-part 2) (#2 Attachment of other state Latin mottos)

Kaia Nygord, student (#1 Testimony-part 3)

Malena Mastel, student (#1 Testimony-part 4)

Kathy Strand, student (#1 Testimony-part 5)

David Volk, Latin Teacher, Fargo (#1 Testimony-part 6) (#3 Attachment—color page with seal, motto and pictures)

Senator Flakoll: How many Classical Leagues are there in the state? **David Volk:** it varies; they require a ton of hours and some don't have the time to put in. Mandan has a program; Grand Forks some years. Fargo hosted the national convention in Fargo this summer at the dome.

Senator Flakoll moved Do Pass to Engrossed HB 1346; second by **Senator Luick**. Motion carried 7-0-0; Senator Flakoll will carry the bill.

Date: 3/16/11
Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1346

Senate Education Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment
☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Sen. Flakoll Seconded By Sen. Luick

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Layton Freborg	X		Senator Joan Heckaman	X	
Vice Chair Donald Schaible	X		Senator Richard Marcellais	X	
Senator Tim Flakoll	X				
Senator Gary A. Lee	X				
Senator Larry Luick	X				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Flakoll

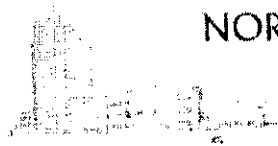
If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1346, as engrossed: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends
DO PASS (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1346
was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2011 TESTIMONY

HB 1346



NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360

Representative Joe Heilman
District 45
2702 9 1/2 Street North
Fargo, ND 58102-1370
jheilman@nd.gov

Attachment 1
1346
COMMITTEES:
Education
Political Subdivisions

Testimony: HB 1346 – State Latin Motto

Committee: House Government and Veteran Affairs

Chairman: Rep. Bette Grande

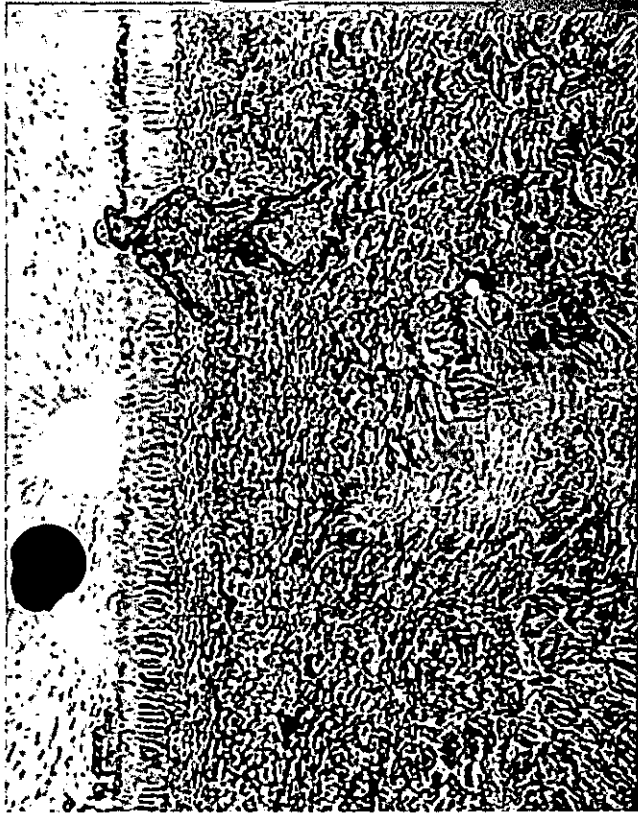
Date: January 27, 2011

Madame Chair and members of the House Government and Veteran Affairs Committee, my name is Representative Joe Heilman. I represent District 45, which includes parts of North Fargo, North River, Reiles Acres, and Harwood. It also includes Fargo North High School, which is where this bill originated.

I will be short with my remarks and say that this is a student driven initiative and they are here to tell you what this means to them and why it is important. They are very excited to be involved in this process and thank you for taking the time on this issue.

Before I conclude, we did notice a small, technical error in the spelling of one of the Latin words in the Bill language. I would ask that you please consider amending line 7 by striking the word “~~presint~~” and replace it with the word “prosit”. I will defer to the students and instructors for any questions on this matter.

Again, thank you for your time. I stand for any questions.



The Sower, 1888. Vincent Van Gogh



NORTH DAKOTA



The Sower, 1850. Jean-Francois Millet



Serit ut alteri saeculo prosit.

①

Mr. Chairperson, and members of the committee, my name is Grant Kraft from Fargo, and I am in favor of this bill which would add a state Latin motto in addition to our current English motto. This motto would be "Serit ut alteri saeclo prosit." which translates to, "One sows for the benefit of another age." This motto was chosen after members of the **Fargo North** Junior Classical League had the idea for a state Latin motto and began to take action.

As the **North Dakota** Junior Classical League President, I would like to give you a brief explanation of the organization. The Junior Classical League, or JCL, is a national organization consisting of around 50,000 student members. The **North Dakota** Junior Classical League, or NDJCL, is a state chapter of that organization consisting of over 250 members. As the JCL creed states the members of the JCL "*believe an acquaintance with the civilization of Greece and Rome will help us understand and appraise this world of today, which is indebted to the ancient civilization in its government and laws, literature, language and arts. We affirm the JCL experience develops responsibility, fosters brotherhood, promotes enthusiasm, encourages competition, inspires dedication and enriches our total growth.*" And, however important we believe it is for citizens of North Dakota to realize that our current government is deeply tied to the roots of the Latin- speaking Romans, the passing of this bill can symbolize much more. This bill can show what happens when a group of people come up with an idea and work together to make that idea a reality. The High School Musical movies did a great job talking about teamwork in this way, "*We're all in this together, and it shows when we stand hand in hand, make our dreams come true.*" "*There's not a star in heaven that we can't reach if we're trying.*" After our initial meeting in October, in the back of my mind I didn't find it possible to actually have this proposal become a law. When I got the news that Mr. Heilman was sponsoring our bill, I was taken back for a moment. Even though I have always believed that anything is possible, especially when you work together, I secretly thought Latin was surely something nobody would be willing to listen to. I was wrong. Some might laugh at the idea of a Latin motto and claim that Latin is dead, but as you are about to see from the following speakers, Latin students are some of the most alive and persistent individuals.

Madam Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the committee, my name is Gabriel Christian Ferragut, and I am here from Fargo North High School in order to give testimony in favor of this bill.

I am willing to bet that most of us here today are not able to have a conversation, or even say a sentence that is not affected in some way by Latin.

Latin has come to be the foundation of our language, and a fundamental part of our nation's government as well. Our legal system is largely based off of Roman Civil Law, and a lot of terminology has subsequently been adopted as a result of this. Of course, I am sure that all of you know better of this than I do.

Take a look at our currency, or societies such as the masons, and not to mention the field of medicine. All of these have Latin incorporated into them; whether it is a quotation on the dollar, or the basis of modern medical terminology, Latin is a driving force in our lives.

We believe that our state should also pay tribute to that which has shaped our society so much, and that is why I support the appointing of a state Latin motto.

#1 HB1346

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Chris Deal, and I support this bill. People always ask me why I take Latin. Why would I take a dead language? I never knew how to answer; so, I'd just shrug and say, "I don't know." Well that was my answer up until last year. In our sophomore English class we had weekly vocabulary quizzes. It wasn't until about half way through the year when I found out these quizzes were apparently pretty difficult. The other kids were talking about how they studied for hours, and could only get by with a C. That's when the kid next to me noticed my perfect quiz, and asked how long I had to study for a score like that. So I told him I just read through them in the 2 minutes before class started.

I'm not trying to make it sound like I took Latin so I could study less, although in the case of vocabulary it sure has helped! But because of Latin I know the roots of words, so I could easily pick out which definitions went with what words.

So now when people tell me "Latin is dead," "It's useless," or "When will you use it?" I just laugh to myself and think of all the times it has already helped me.

Mr. Chairperson and the committee, my name is Erin Stangeland, and I am a supporter of this bill. In early fall we were working concessions and started talking about adding a Latin motto for North Dakota. When I got home that night, I was so excited! Yes, I spent my Friday night researching, and I'm glad to say that it was well worth it. I have found all kinds of facts that you may find convincing:

- 23/50 states currently have a Latin motto
- 1/50 is Greek
- 1/50 is Italian

A Latin motto adds aesthetic value and sophistication to a state, which brings me to my next point.

North Dakota is ever changing, and as a North Dakota youth who plans to stay here, I want to be a part of changing it for the better. The current English North Dakota motto is from 1889 and a beautiful description of our state, but this Latin motto would augment our state's mission and make it even better.

Some States such as Kentucky and South Carolina have more than one motto. In fact South Carolina has two in LATIN, and Kentucky has one of the two in Latin. Kentucky recently added a Latin motto in 2002. Please refer to the hand out to see all the 23 states Latin mottos.

If you look at our country, then you see that the United States of America has three Latin mottos and one English motto on our currency: E Pluribus Unum, Annuit Coeptis, Novus Ordo Seclorum and In God We Trust.

Other United States organizations also have chosen Latin mottos such as:

Marine Corps- Semper Fidelis-Always faithful

Coast Guard- Semper paratus- Always ready

Airforce- Supra omnia- Above all

Unofficial navy- Non sibi, sed patriae- Not for oneself, but for one's country

In keeping with our national tradition I feel that we should follow our nation by adopting a Latin motto together with an English motto, and that's why I'm in favor of this bill.

3

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Kaia Nygord from Fargo. I'm in favor of this bill because I believe that this motto fits in with what North Dakota is trying to achieve. When one thinks of North Dakota, what they think about first is that North Dakota has much agriculture. If one knows where this motto has derived from, they really get to see the full meaning of this motto. It comes from the famous Roman philosopher Cicero. He said, "Serit arbores quae alteri saeculo prosint." In English this translates into "One plants trees for the benefit of another age". So to have it come from this famous quotation, it really seems to play off the fact that North Dakota does have agricultural roots. It says that our farmers are working hard in their fields not only to work on helping this current generation, but they are looking to continue with growing the future of generations to come. I truly believe that this is something that North Dakota is striving for.

Another reason why this works for North Dakota is because of our work ethic. North Dakotans are known for their work ethic. We believe that working hard will reap rewards from that hard work. We have gained the reputation for supporting our emerging businesses, entrepreneurs and expansions. This is implied with the proposed motto. We as a state are striving to carve a path, in other words plow, for those new businesses that want to grow. We are striving to cut down those problems so it may someday be easier for someone else to start their own project and succeed. As for education North Dakota is striving for academic excellence. We have colleges that are working hard and are getting national recognition. It is exciting to see how the schools are developing and how the future of North Dakota is working on bettering its school systems and how this will affect kids in the future and how they will go through school and will succeed. I also believe this also plays into the Legacy Fund. With our booming natural resources such as our oil and gas production this is a step to ensuring that our future generations would have something. With saving some of the money from these resources and putting it away for a future because we are insuring that our future generations have something in case of emergency. This money could be used to better our education, find ways to have a better crop, or to help some struggling businesses to grow. As some have said as almost a motto for the Legacy Fund, "This is not about the next four years... it's about the next 40 years." This is another step in planting the seeds that will someday make strong roots for the future of North Dakota.

4

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Malena Mastel from Fargo, North Dakota, and I support this bill because this motto is a perfect fit for North Dakota. "Serit ut alteri saeculo prosint", or in English, "One sows for the benefit of another age" reflects the essence of North Dakota in a few words. It represents perfectly who we are with our rich agricultural history. We have some of the richest soil in the world, and we use it! Wheat, soybeans, corn, sunflowers, durum, canola, flaxseed, beans, barley, sugar beets- you name it, we plant it. But we don't just plant it for ourselves, we provide our crops to the world; we plant so that others may enjoy the products too. We rank first for production in at least nine different crops for the U.S., and our crops are distributed all around the world. Harvesting such crops is a backbreaking job. Planting acres of soil, tending to the crop, reaping the harvest: there are hours and hours of hard work, rain or shine. It takes determination, skill, and motivation to produce a bountiful crop. So the motto sums up our world-famous work ethic in addition to representing our agricultural heritage.

5

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Kathy Strand from Fargo. I'm in favor of this bill because I firmly believe that "One sows for the benefit of another age" honors those who came before us and is a worthy tribute to our forbearers, North Dakota leaders and founding fathers. When I hear the motto, I can visualize my immigrant grandparents arriving in North Dakota and laboring on the farm so their children could have a brighter future. I also think of the illustrious leaders of our state such as Governor Art Link. I recall the famous words from his speech: *When the Landscape is Quiet Again*. He affirmed, "Let those who follow be able to say, our grandparents did their job well. The land is as good and in some cases, better than before." The motto in its Latin form causes my mind to drift to Thomas Jefferson who had the utmost esteem for both agrarian life and the ideals of Ancient Greece and Rome. He believed that "those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God". Jefferson's dream for America was a place populated with those who had their hands in the earth's soil by day and read the Classics to their children by the fire in the evening. North Dakota may be the state in the union that most closely embodies that Jeffersonian optimism. The great pride I have in the rich agricultural heritage and educational vision of North Dakota causes me to passionately support the bill to make "Serit ut alteri saeclo prosit" our state Latin motto.

6

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is David Volk, Latin teacher from Fargo. I'm in favor of this bill because in recent year many companies and organizations have been adopting mission statements. The motto "Serit ut alteri saeclo prosit" would be a constant reminder/mission statement for legislators, parents, and all citizens of the importance of the long range implications of all we do.

Today I stand before you wearing a dress shirt of my grandfather, Joe Volk, who was a longtime farmer and gardener whose parents immigrated to North Dakota during its early years, I also am wearing a suit coat of my father, Emanuel Volk, who grew up on the farm in North Dakota and became a tractor mechanic. Like so many people in North Dakota I am rooted in farming and agricultural professions. My grandparents and parents, having lived through the depression and other hard times, know the importance of sowing seeds with the futures of their children in mind as they toiled tirelessly to provide for us. They did not take education for granted and did what they could to make sure that their children had a better educational experience than they did.

I am also wearing a tie given to me by my four children. It displays a tree and a parent's dual role of paving the path upward and onward, but also cultivating and nurturing to foster growth. Today you have seen the wonderful youth who have testified before you. It is for them that you and I do what we do today.

By the way you will note on the cover page that our state seal contain both a tree and plow indicative of this motto. Plus you will note that the Van Gogh painting of the Sower, completed the year before the founding of North Dakota, contains a tree and the sunshine as on the seal.

It is with this visionary spirit of the past, present, and future that I strongly urge that we North Dakotans embrace our roots and proudly enact a motto, which although previously not stated in the Century Code, nevertheless has been lived out to the fullest by numerous ancestors. It will serve as a fitting reminder to us and all who come after us that each "one plants for the benefit of another age." Thank you for allowing us to testify before you today, and we hope that you find it fitting to pass this bill.

1 HB1346

State Latin Mottos

Alabama- Audemus jura nostra defendere-We dare defend our rights.

Arizona- Ditat Deus- God enriches.

Arkansas- Regnat Populus- The people rule.

Colorado- Nil Sine Numine- Nothing without the divine providence.

Connecticut- Qui transtulit sustinet- He who transplanted sustains.

Idaho- Esto Perpetua- Let it be perpetual.

Kansas- As Astra Per Aspera- To the stars through difficulties.

Kentucky- United we stand, divided we fall.

Deo gratiam habeamus – Let us be grateful to god.

Maine- Dirigo- I lead.

Massachusetts- Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem- By the sword we seek peace, but only under Liberty.

Michigan- Si quaeris peninsulam amoenam circumspice- If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.

Mississippi- Virtute et armis- By valor and arms.

Missouri- Salus populi suprema lex esto- Let the welfare of the people be the supreme law.

New Mexico- Crescit eundo- It grows as it goes.

New York- Excelsior- Ever Upward.

North Carolina- Esse Quam Videri- To be, rather than to seem.

Oklahoma- Labor omnia vincit- Labor conquers all things.

Oregon- Alis volat propriis- She flies with her own wings.

South Carolina- Dum spiro spero- while I breathe I hope.

Animis opibusque parati- Ready in soul and resources.

Virginia- Sic semper tyrannis- Thus always to the tyrants.

West Virginia- Montanni Semper Liberi- Mountaineers are always free.

Facts about Latin (prepared by Matt Schneider):

- Around sixty percent of English words have Latin origins.
- Some of the main romance languages derived from Latin include the following: Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Romanian, and Catalan.
- There are roughly eight hundred million native speakers of romance languages.
- The Latin alphabet with its 23 letters was the source for the modern English alphabet (also referred to as the Roman alphabet) with the later addition of the letters J, U, and W.
- These are some English words derived from the Latin words found in the proposed state motto:
 - “Serere” means “to sow, plant”; some English derivatives are the following words: seasons, seminate, seminary
 - “Alter, altera, alterum” means “other”; some English derivatives are the following: alter, alteration, alternate, and altruistic
 - “Saeculum/saeculum, saeculi/saeculi (n)” means “age, ”; some English derivatives are the following: secular and siècle (*Fin de siècle* is French for “end of the century”. The term sometimes encompasses both the closing and onset of an era, as it was felt to be a period of degeneration, but at the same time a period of hope for a new beginning.) (This word is also used in the US motto “Novus ordo seclorum”)
 - “Prosum, proesse” means “to support, be a benefit to” and comes from the prefix “pro”, which means “forward”, and the verb “sum, esse, fui, futurus”, which means “to be”; some English derivatives are the following: possible, future, essence, present, and absent

#2 HB 1346

The subsequent passage was taken from the Wikipedia explanations of the US Latin mottos:

E pluribus unum for "**Out of many, one**", is a dictum on the Seal of the United States, along with *Annuit cœptis* and *Novus ordo seclorum*, and adopted by an Act of Congress in 1782. The phrase is similar to a Latin translation of a variation of Heraclitus' 10th fragment, "Out of all things one, one out of all things." A variant of the phrase was used in *Moretum*, a poem about salad attributed to Virgil but with the actual author unknown. In the poem text, *color est e pluribus unus* describes the blending of colors into one. St Augustine used a variant of the phrase, *ex pluribus unum*, in his *Confessions*. At the time of the American Revolution, the exact phrase appeared prominently on the title page of a popular periodical, *The Gentleman's Magazine*, which collected articles from many sources into one "magazine". The motto was suggested in 1776 to the committee responsible for the developing the seal by Pierre Eugene du Simitiere.

Never codified by law, *E pluribus unum* was considered a *de facto* motto of the United States until 1956 when the United States Congress passed an act (H.J. Resolution 396), adopting In God We Trust as the official motto. Seth Read of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, was said to have been "instrumental" in the addition of "E Pluribus Unum" to U.S. coins. The first coins with this motto were dated 1786 and struck under the authorization of the State of New Jersey by Thomas Goadsby and Albion Cox in Rahway, New Jersey. The motto had no New Jersey linkage but was likely an available die that had been created by Walter Mould the previous year for a failed federal coinage proposal. Walter Mould was also authorized by New Jersey to strike state coppers with this motto and did so beginning in early 1787 in Morristown, New Jersey.

While *Annuit cœptis* and *Novus ordo seclorum* appear on the reverse side of the great seal, *E pluribus unum* appears on the obverse side of the seal (Designed by Charles Thomson), the image of which is used as the national emblem of the United States, and appears on official documents such as passports. It also appears on the seal of the President and in the seals of the Vice President of the United States, of the United States Congress, of the United States House of Representatives, of the United States Senate and on the seal of the United States Supreme Court.

E pluribus unum, written in capital letters, is included on most U.S. currency, with some exceptions to the letter spacing (such as the reverse of the dime). It is also embossed on the edge of the dollar coin. (See *United States coinage and paper bills in circulation*).

Originally suggesting that out of many colonies or states emerge a single nation, in recent years it has come to suggest that out of many peoples, races, religions and ancestries has emerged a single people and nation – illustrating the concept of the melting pot.

The subsequent passage was taken from the Wikipedia explanations of the US English mottos:

In God We Trust was adopted as the official motto of the United States in 1956. It is also the motto of the U.S. state of Florida. The phrase has appeared on U.S. *coin* currency since the 1860s and on *paper* currency since 1957. One possible origin of *In God We Trust* is the final stanza of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. Written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key (and later adopted as the U.S. national anthem), the song contains an early reference to a variation of the phrase: "...*And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust'*."

It was first used as a motto on coinage on the 1864 two-cent coin, followed in 1866 by the 5 cent nickel (1866–1883), quarter dollar, half dollar, silver dollar and gold dollars. An 1865 law allowed the motto to be used on coins. The use of the motto was permitted, but not required, by an 1873 law. While several laws come into play, the act of May 18, 1908, is most often cited as *requiring* the motto (even though the cent and nickel were excluded from that law, and the nickel did not have the motto added until 1938). Since 1938, all coins have borne the motto.

On July 11, 1955, just one year after the phrase "under God" was incorporated into the Pledge of Allegiance), the U.S. Congress enacted Public Law 84-140, which required the motto on all coins *and currency*. The law was approved by President Eisenhower on July 30, 1956, and the motto was progressively added to paper money over a period from 1957 to 1966.

In 1956 the phrase was legally adopted as the United States' national motto by a law passed by the 84th United States Congress.(Public Law 84-851)", and the United States Code at 36 U.S.C. § 302, now states: "'In God we trust' is the national motto."

#2 HB1346