

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 17

By: Treat

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution commemorating May 2023 as Jewish
8 American Heritage Month; and honoring the
9 contributions of the Jewish people to the United
10 States of America and the State of Oklahoma.

11 WHEREAS, Jewish settlers began coming to Oklahoma and Indian
12 Territories as early as 1875 and took part in the Land Run of 1889.
13 In 1890, the first Jewish congregation formed in Ardmore, Oklahoma.
14 The estimated Jewish population of Oklahoma Territory in 1890 was
15 100, but by statehood, it was about 1,000, peaking at more than
16 7,500 in the late 1920s; and

17 WHEREAS, early Jewish settlers primarily became merchants or
18 turned their scrap metal businesses into pipe and supply and oil
19 businesses. Most Oklahoma towns during the territorial and early
20 statehood days had Jewish business owners, including merchants,
21 newspaper owners, and service providers; and

22 WHEREAS, the Jewish community has helped define the character
23 and values of Oklahoma and the United States through core Jewish
24 beliefs, such as the creation of man in the image of God, the

1 infinite value of every human life, and the importance of education
2 in the lives of children; and

3 WHEREAS, since 2006, the President of the United States has
4 declared the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
6 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

7 THAT the Oklahoma Senate commemorates May 2023 as Jewish
8 American Heritage Month and honors the contributions of Jewish
9 Americans to the United States of America and the State of Oklahoma.

10
11 59-1-2192 KG 5/5/2023 4:31:41 PM

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25