

ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 35

By: Helton, Price, Long (Ed),
and Shurden of the Senate

and

Benson and Cox of the House

A Concurrent Resolution stating legislative intent that Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. be the official Crime Stoppers organization of this state; encouraging all government agencies, businesses, law enforcement agencies, news media, and the public to participate in, support and make donations to the organization; encouraging the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and the Criminal Justice Resource Center to assist Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc.; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the first Crime Stoppers organization began in the State of New Mexico in September 1976, and since that time has grown to over eight hundred fifty (850) organizations operating within forty-eight (48) states, Canada, Africa, Europe and the Virgin Islands; and from 1976 to 1990, these crime prevention organizations have been responsible for solving more than three hundred fourteen thousand one hundred seventy-four (314,174) crimes, have recovered more than One Billion Eight Hundred Eight Million Three Hundred Seventy-six Thousand Thirty-five Dollars (\$1,808,376,035.00) in stolen property, and have helped convict ninety-seven percent (97%) of the suspects brought to trial from Crime Stoppers information; and

WHEREAS, statistics show Crime Stoppers organizations in the State of Oklahoma solve a crime every forty-five minutes and recover over Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) in stolen property every day; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated effort of involvement including government agencies, businesses, law enforcement agencies, news media, and citizens is essential to solve the crime problems facing this state, and to reduce the number of juvenile delinquents and adult offenders without placing an additional strain on the state's already limited criminal justice resources; and

WHEREAS, Crime Stoppers organizations help prevent crimes, solve crimes through citizen involvement and awareness, and both protect the identity of citizens when giving information about a crime and reward citizens for their efforts to apprehend law violators; and

WHEREAS, the Crime Stoppers organizations have demonstrated to be a cost-effective crime prevention and apprehension resource for every community which has access to a Crime Stoppers organization; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, the Legislature authorized the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma pursuant to Section 991g of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes to certify outstanding Crime Stoppers organizations for court ordered repayments of rewards by offenders when the Crime Stoppers information led to solving that crime, and

Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. has requested certification at this time; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. has been the nonprofit organization responsible for implementing, training and assisting all local Crime Stoppers organizations now operating in this state; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. is recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501 C (3) nonprofit organization which is supported by local government agencies through technical and administrative assistance, law enforcement agencies which commit trained peace officers for receiving confidential information about crimes and for administering the Crime Stoppers organizations, by the news media which contribute newspaper, radio and television advertisements and "Crime of the Week" spots to help bring unsolved crimes to the attention of citizens, and by monetary donations from local businesses and concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. deserves statewide recognition for an outstanding crime prevention and apprehension organization, and in an effort to network against crime deserves a statewide 1-800 telephone number to receive information about criminal activity occurring anywhere in this state and to network with law enforcement agencies, citizens and other Crime Stoppers organizations in preventing and solving crimes; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is willing to provide the 1-800 telephone number and the trained law enforcement officer to receive confidential information about felony crimes; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Resource Center, as part of their statutory duty to serve as a clearinghouse for criminal justice information, provide technical assistance to criminal justice agencies, and facilitate information networking, is willing to assist Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. in its effort to prevent and solve crimes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT it is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. be the official Crime Stoppers organization for the State of Oklahoma and be recognized for their vital role in preventing and solving juvenile and adult crime within this state.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature encourages all government agencies, businesses, law enforcement agencies, news media, and Oklahoma citizens to participate in and support Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. through generous donations for rewards, technical assistance, media support, and reporting of information about crimes.

THAT the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and the Criminal Justice Resource Center are encouraged to assist Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc. in establishing a statewide 1-800 telephone number and coordinating a statewide Crime Stoppers network.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Director of the Criminal Justice Resource Center, the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma, and the President of Oklahoma Crime Stoppers Inc.

Adopted by the Senate the 21st day of March, 1994.

President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 19th day of April,
1994.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives