ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 52

By: Harrison, Muegge, Bell, Brown, Cain, Capps, Cole, Cullison, Dickerson, Douglass, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Helton, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Hooper, Horner, Kerr, Lawler, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long (Ed), Long (Lewis), Mickle, Monson, Pierce, Price, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Rubottom, Shedrick, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), Williams (Penny) and Wright of the Senate

and

Holt, Adair, Anthony, Apple, Bass, Bastin, Begley, Benson, Beutler, Bonny, Boyd (Betty), Boyd (Laura), Breckinridge, Bryant (James Sears), Bryant (John), Caldwell, Campbell, Coleman, Cotner, Cox, Cozort, Crocker, Culver, Davis, Dunegan, Dunlap, Erwin, Fallin, Ferguson, Fields, Gates, Glover, Graves, Gray, Greenwood, Hager, Hamilton (James), Hamilton (Jeff), Hefner, Henshaw, Hilliard, Hutchison, Isaac, Johnson (Glen), Johnson (Rob), Key, Kinnamon, Kirby, Kouba, Langmacher, Larason, Leist, Lucas, Maddox (Jim), Maddux (Elmer), Mass, Matlock, McCorkell, Mitchell, Monks, Paulk, Peltier, Perry, Phillips, Pope, Reese, Rhoads (Karroll), Rhodes (Dusty), Rice, Roach, Roberts, Ross, Sadler, Satterfield, Seikel, Settle, Smith (Bill), Smith (Dale), Stanley, Steidley, Stites, Stottlemyre, Sullivan, Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Thornbrugh, Todd, Toure, Tyler, Vaughn (George), Vaughn (Ray), Voskuhl, Weaver, Webb, Weese, Wells, Widener, Williams, Worthen and York of the House

A Concurrent Resolution commending Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler for his efforts, bravery at imminent risk of serious bodily injury, exceptional heroism and persistence; congratulating him on his selection as a Trooper of the Year by the Oklahoma Highway Users Federation; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler #834 has been a State Trooper for five and a half years. The 30-year-old is presently stationed in Ponca City assigned to Troop K as a canine handler. Prior to this assignment, Trooper Siler was stationed in Texas County where he maintained an excellent record for narcotics interdiction; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 1993, at noon, Trooper Siler was working traffic on Interstate-35 in Kay County near Tonkawa when he stopped a vehicle driven by Emil Elvis Decoteau. Decoteau, unknown to Trooper Siler, was wanted for a triple murder. During the initial contact by Trooper Siler with Decoteau, Trooper Siler observed the butt of a shotgun lying on the floor between the driver's feet. Trooper Siler ordered Decoteau out of the vehicle and began to search him. Trooper Siler asked if the shotgun was loaded. Decoteau replied, "you bet it is" and attempted to reach the weapon; and

WHEREAS, a struggle ensued and Decoteau was able to get to the shotgun. Trooper Siler then drew his sidearm as Decoteau brought the shotgun out of the vehicle, pointing the weapon toward Trooper Siler. Trooper Siler ordered Decoteau to drop the shotgun. When there was no response, Trooper Siler fired several rounds through the rear window of the vehicle in which Decoteau had taken cover. Decoteau then started his vehicle and attempted to elude Trooper Siler. Trooper Siler pursued Decoteau over several miles of county roads, radioing information to Troop K Headquarters in reference to Decoteau's tag and vehicle, and reporting he was in pursuit with shots being exchanged. From the radio exchange, Trooper Siler learned that Decoteau was wanted; and

WHEREAS, Decoteau took evasive action, turning into a field beside a wooded creek, exiting his vehicle, and running across the creek. Trooper Siler arrived at the scene and exchanged shots with Decoteau before the fugitive escaped through heavy brush. Trooper Siler returned to his unit to direct approaching units to the location. During this time, Trooper Siler maintained a vigilance on the wooded area to lessen the chances of an escape by Decoteau. Arriving troopers were positioned to assure that Decoteau was contained in the area. When the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Tactical Team arrived, Trooper Siler accompanied them into the wooded area in an effort to locate and apprehend Decoteau. Another exchange of gunfire occurred when Trooper Siler and the Tac Team entered the wooded area. At 7:25 p.m. Decoteau was located, dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler was selected as a Trooper of the Year by the Oklahoma Highway Users Federation and honored at a luncheon. The Highway Safety Recognition award luncheon is a 25-year tradition of the organization.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature commends Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler #834 for his efforts, bravery at imminent risk of serious bodily injury, exceptional heroism and persistence.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature congratulates Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler upon his selection as Trooper of the Year by the Oklahoma Highway Users Federation.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Siler, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, and the Oklahoma Highway Users Federation.

Adopted by the Senate the 4th day of May, 1994.

President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 9th day of May, 1994.

Speaker of the House of Representatives