

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 1072

By: Benson, Johnson (Glen) and  
Steidley of the House

and

Mickle of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution congratulating and commending Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System was created by the Legislature on July 1, 1991; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System is overseen by a five-member board serving without compensation; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System is charged with the responsibility of providing trial, appellate and capital post-conviction indigent defense services in seventy-five of Oklahoma's seventy-seven counties; and

WHEREAS, in March of 1992 the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System was in critical condition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III was appointed by the Governor to the position of Chairman of the Indigent Defense System Board; and

WHEREAS, at the time of Mr. Meyer's appointment there was a backlog of five hundred and ten appeals cases that were the responsibility of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System and that were the subject of an inmate-filed case at the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System Board decided to reduce the backlog by contracting the five hundred and ten unbriefed cases to private attorneys, rather than by adding new employees; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Meyer's most able direction the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System created and installed a trial-level indigent defense program in seventy-five counties of this state, a feat never before attempted in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Mr. Meyer's efforts, the backlog of unbriefed appeals had been eliminated by April of 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III has left a mark on the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System that will never be matched as a result of his tremendous response to the crisis that Oklahoma faced in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III has resigned his position as Chairman of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System Board.

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

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature and the citizens of the great State of Oklahoma are forever indebted to Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III for the tremendous role he played in solving a very serious issue in Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature congratulates and commends Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III on a job well done.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Governor David Walters, the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System and Mr. Henry A. Meyer, III.

44-2-8536

AJW