

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1123

By: Steidley of the House

and

Taylor of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution proclaiming June 25, 1994 as J.M. Davis Gun Museum Appreciation Day; providing historical perspective and contribution of J.M. Davis; detailing certain artifacts and relics at Museum; congratulating Museum on upcoming celebration and encouraging Museum support; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, J.M. Davis traded 2,000 acres of timberland in Arkansas in 1917 for the Mason Hotel located in Claremore, Oklahoma, to display his collection of unique armaments, valuable relics and artifacts; and

WHEREAS, J.M. Davis, owner of the razed Mason Hotel and former Mayor of Claremore, Oklahoma, devoted a lifetime to the collection of over 20,000 antique guns, unique artifacts and relics valued at \$7 million that are now archived at the J.M. Davis Gun Museum; and

WHEREAS, the J.M. Davis Gun Museum, located in Claremore, Oklahoma, is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and currently hosts the most extensive firearms collection in the world containing six centuries of firearm history; and

WHEREAS, the J.M. Davis Gun Museum also archives a variety of antique and historical treasures ranging from the oldest piece, a hand cannon made in 1340, to the most valuable item, a gold inlaid

Miqulete that sports a gold inlaid barrel having over 50,000 pieces of inlay; and

WHEREAS, the J.M. Davis Gun Museum contains in its collection many other unique treasures of history including: antique oriental wall cannons, Gatling guns, famous Colt patented guns, Parker shotguns, Winchester rifles, swords, knives, as well as housing firearm relics of "Pretty Boy" Floyd, Bonnie Parker, Jessie James and Alvin Karpis; and

WHEREAS, the famous collection of J.M. Davis and other unique historical treasures are archived at the J.M. Davis Gun Museum, and have been heralded as rivaling the firearm collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and the Buffalo Bill Historical Center's Winchester Gun Museum in Cody, Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, the unique collection at the J.M. Davis Gun Museum located in Claremore displays and archives the finest collections of antique armaments and historical treasures in the world that reflect six centuries of history.

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 proclaims June 25, 1994, as J.M. Davis Gun Museum Appreciation Day.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the important contribution that J.M. Davis made in collecting such valuable pieces of history which are now archived at the J.M. Davis Gun Museum located in Claremore, Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature encourages citizens across this great State to visit the J.M. Davis Gun Museum located in Claremore, Oklahoma where archived treasures have been preserved and displayed that depict six centuries of unique historical items from the past.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature congratulates the J.M. Davis Gun Museum for celebrating its 25th Anniversary on June 25, 1994, at the

Museum site where special events and displays of Civil War treasures and other private collections will be available to the public for viewing.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Lee T. Good, Director, J.M. Davis Gun Museum; members of the J.M. Davis Memorial Commission; and Tom Pool, Mayor of the City of Claremore.

44-2-L9954 ASK