

ENGROSSED SENATE  
CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 62

By: Horner and Williams (Penny)  
of the Senate

and

Ross of the House

A Concurrent Resolution congratulating and honoring Tulsa author Clifton Taulbert; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 1996, Tulsa, Oklahoma, author Clifton Taulbert won the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Image Award for his 1989 memoir "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored". Taulbert was nominated in the category of Outstanding Literary Work: Nonfiction. Taulbert's book is an account of his early years growing up in Mississippi. In his book Taulbert recounts the positive influence of a caring community, its belief in children and its impact on the direction of his life. Taulbert continues his life story in his other book, "The Last Train North", which has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize; and

WHEREAS, Taulbert's book was adapted into a film from a script written by former Tulsan Paul Cooper. The movie starred Richard Roundtree, Al Freeman, Jr., Phylicia Rashad, Taj Mahal, Isaac Hayes, and Polly Bergen. "Once Upon a Time ... When We Were Colored" won the Audience Award for Most Popular Film at the Hawaii International Film Festival; the Special Jury Prize for Direction in a Feature Debut at the Tenth Annual Fort Lauderdale Film Festival; and the Audience Choice: Best of Fest award at the St. Louis Film Festival.

Besides winning numerous film awards, the film received critical acclaim and won the hearts of audiences everywhere; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating proclaimed Wednesday, April 17, 1996, "Clifton Taulbert Day in Oklahoma". Governor Keating said the book embodies "all the special virtues of America" and is "a story of achievement"; and

WHEREAS, Clifton Taulbert and his wife Barbara have established the Anne Catherine Taulbert Endowment for Sickle Cell Anemia through the Sickle Cell Disease Association of Tulsa. The University Center at Tulsa has presented the Taulbert Fund with more than Six Thousand Dollars raised at a special showing of the movie in Tulsa on April 19, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Clifton Taulbert has been recognized from Europe to the American South as a great writer, humanitarian, and civic leader. Taulbert lives in Tulsa with his wife Barbara and their son Marshall. He is a graduate of Oral Roberts University and serves on numerous boards of directors including the Liberty Bancorp, the Gilcrease Museum, the Business and Industrial Development Corporation, and the Goodwill Industries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN;

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature congratulates Tulsa author Clifton Taulbert for his winning the NAACP Image Award, his nomination for a Pulitzer Prize and the many awards garnered by the movie based on his autobiographical book.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature honors Clifton Taulbert for bringing recognition and acclaim to the City of Tulsa and the State of Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be presented to Clifton Taulbert, the State Arts Council of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for inclusion in the Oklahoma Room collection.

Adopted by the Senate the 13th day of May, 1996.

President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
1996.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives