

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 2 By: Wright and Hobson

A Resolution praising all pro-child, anti-alcohol and drug abuse programs in the State of Oklahoma; commending Fergie Bear and the sponsor; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear was created as a mascot for the Ferguson Pontiac dealership in Broken Arrow and Norman. His role was expanded in both communities as a character available to organizations that help children and help make people aware of children's issues; and

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear made his first public appearance on September 4, 1993, entertaining children at various events and standing as a silent advocate for prevention of drug and alcohol abuse; and

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear offers his services free of charge and is accessible to low-income neighborhoods that otherwise could not afford such entertainment; and

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear and his sponsoring corporation, Ferguson Pontiac GMC, have received the Friend of Children award from the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth presented Ferguson Pontiac GMC with the 1993 Oklahoma Red Ribbon Celebration Governor's Award for Corporation of the Year. The award recognized Fergie Bear's efforts and other measures of support which Ferguson Pontiac GMC has given to programs to fight youth drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Pontiac GMC also won the 1994 Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy Friends of Children Corporate Award, as a "Friend of the Children" for the efforts of Fergie Bear; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Pontiac GMC has been recognized by the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C. for outstanding contribution to Oklahoma's substance abuse prevention program through the actions of Fergie Bear who won a special recognition award from the Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of National Drug Control Policy; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Pontiac GMC provides use of a car to the Oklahoma Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth and support for their hot air balloon shaped like a can of soda pop with the motto, "You can be drug free and proud." Ferguson Pontiac GMC has also donated red ribbons for Red Ribbon Week in public schools; and

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear travels with Students Against Drugs and Alcohol when the organization presents school assemblies. Fergie Bear also attends Camp Fire and Boy Scout events and visits young patients at St. Francis Hospital and St. John Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Fergie Bear has supported help for the homeless, has handed out drug abuse prevention literature and has assisted other charitable programs. During his first year Fergie Bear has participated in over 600 healthy lifestyle events for youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates all pro-child, anti-alcohol and drug abuse programs in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the efforts of Fergie Bear and the sponsor, Ferguson Pontiac GMC.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to both the Broken Arrow and Norman, Oklahoma, Fergie Bear.

Adopted by the Senate the 7th day of March, 1995.

President of the Senate