ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 20 By: Stipe, Bell, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Cole, Dickerson, Douglass, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Kerr, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long (Ed), Long (Lewis), Maddox, Martin, Mickle, Monson, Muegge, Pierce, Price, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Rubottom, Shedrick, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), Williams (Penny) and Wright

A Resolution commending all participating firefighters for their bravery and heroic action; inviting out-of-state firefighters and their families back to enjoy Oklahoma hospitality during happier times; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on April 19, 1995, the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was bombed in a cowardly action that has been condemned throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, among the first rescuers upon the scene were firefighters from the Oklahoma City Fire Department. These brave individuals disregarded their own personal safety in order to be in the middle of the carnage risking their own lives in order to gain the opportunity to save the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, firefighters from throughout the state and nation, from all levels of government, have rallied to meet the crisis, working long hours in the rubble under adverse weather conditions of high winds, driving rain and record low temperatures; and

WHEREAS, all firefighters, regardless of home state, have shown exemplary attitudes of cooperation and encouragement towards the people of Oklahoma City and the State of Oklahoma. Time and time again, out-of-state firefighters have been quoted in the media as appreciating the hospitality of our state in these most trying of times. Out-of-state firefighters have also personally spoken to state and local leaders, commenting on the gracious welcome they have received from the citizens of this state. Firefighters even bought advertisements in Oklahoma papers thanking the state for its hospitality; and

WHEREAS, the people of Oklahoma admire and respect the professional abilities and personal empathy of all participating firefighters who have borne the brunt of rescue work in this horrendous disaster; and

WHEREAS, out-of-state fire departments include Phoenix, Arizona; Los Angeles, Menlo Park, Orange County and Sacramento, California; Metro-Dade County, Florida; Overbrook and Wichita, Kansas; Montgomery County, Maryland; New York City, New York; Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas; Fairfax County and Virginia Beach, Virginia; and Puget Sound, Washington; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma fire departments include Alva, Bartlesville, Beaver, Bethany, Blackwell, Bridge Creek, Broken Arrow, Burns Flat, Chickasha, Choctaw, Clinton, Clinton-Sherman, Cushing, Del City, Edmond, El Reno, Enid, Guthrie, Henryetta, Hickory Hills, Lawton, Locust Grove, Midwest City, Moore, Mustang, Newcastle, Nichols Hills, Norman, Oak Cliff, Oklahoma City, Perry, Piedmont, Seminole, Shawnee, Slaughterville, Stillwater, Tinker Air Force Base, Tulsa,

Turley, the Village, Warr Acres, Weatherford, Will Rogers World Airport and Yukon; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Legislature has already passed House Bill No. 1706, creating the Murrah Crime Victims Compensation Fund; Senate Resolution No. 14, memorializing the victims of the bombing; House Concurrent Resolution No. 1030, commending rescue, recovery and relief efforts; Senate Resolution No. 16, condemning calls for violence against law officers and others; and Senate Resolution No. 18, commending out-of-state volunteers.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends all participating firefighters from all levels of government for their bravery and heroism during the rescue efforts at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate invites all out-of-state firefighters and their families to return to our state and enjoy Oklahoma hospitality during happier times.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to all organizations who contributed firefighting personnel.

That the Oklahoma State Senate requests that this resolution be added to the personnel folder of every firefighter who participated in rescue efforts.

Adopted by the Senate the 11th day of May, 1995.

President of the Senate