

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 34 By: Snyder

A Resolution requesting that the decision to move the Murrah Federal Building bombing trial out of state be reconsidered; suggesting that the jurors be selected from out of state but the trial be held within the borders of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, more than one city in the State of Oklahoma readied itself in case of selection as the site for the Murrah Federal Building bombing trial. More than one local government in Oklahoma made plans and preparations for the trial should it have been selected for the location of the proceedings; and

WHEREAS, while the people of Oklahoma can be trusted to be objective and without prejudice, it is realized that every indication of fairness should be shown. Therefore, it is understandable that the defense would want a change in venue to utilize a jury pool that was removed from the immediate site of the bombing; and

WHEREAS, moving the trial from the State of Oklahoma to an out-of-state site will be enormously expensive, especially to the family and friends of the victims who feel a need and personal obligation to attend the trial. Much expense could be saved by both the federal government and the families of the victims if the jury was selected out of state but the trial held in Oklahoma. This would mean transportation, lodging and meal costs for a jury and alternates who would number far less than the families of the victims and the participating attorneys.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate requests that the decision to move the Murrah Federal Building bombing trial out of state be reconsidered.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate suggests that jurors be selected from out of state, but the trial be held within the borders of Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Judge Richard P. Matsch, Chief District Judge, United States District Court, Colorado, and the United States Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Adopted by the Senate the 5th day of March, 1996.

President of the Senate