ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 48

By: Haney, Cole, Maddox, Mickle, Dickerson, Helton, Kerr, Williams (Penny), Capps, Price, Bell, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Douglass, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Harrison, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long (Ed), Long (Lewis), Martin, Monson, Muegge, Pierce, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Rubottom, Shedrick, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), and Wright of the Senate

and

Glover, Langmacher, Benson, Adair, Beutler, Bonny, Cotner, Deutschendorf, Hutchison, Kirby, Steidley, Adkins, Anthony, Askins, Bastin, Begley, Blackburn, Boyd (Betty), Boyd (Laura), Breckinridge, Bryant, Case, Claunch, Coleman, Cox, Cozort, Crocker, Culver, Dank, Davis, Dunegan, Dunlap, Eddins, Ervin, Erwin, Ferguson, Fields, Graves, Gray, Greenwood, Hager, Hamilton, Hastings, Hefner, Hiett, Hilliard, Holt, Johnson, Key, Kinnamon, Kouba, Leist, Maddux, Mass, Matlock, McCorkell, Miller, Mitchell, Morgan, O'Neal, Paulk, Peltier, Perry, Pettigrew, Phillips, Plunk, Pope (Clay), Pope (Tim), Ramsey, Reese, Rhodes, Rice, Roach, Roberts, Ross, Sadler, Satterfield, Seikel, Settle, Smaligo, Smith (Bill), Smith (Dale), Staggs, Stanley, Stites, Stottlemyre, Sullivan (John), Sullivan (Leonard), Taylor, Thomas, Thornbrugh, Toure, Tyler, Vaughn, Voskuhl, Weaver, Webb, Weese, Wells, Widener and Worthen of the House

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the memory of the late Doc Tate Nevaquaya; expressing sympathy; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Joyce Lee Tate Nevaquaya, popularly known as "Doc Tate" was born in 1932 in Apache, Oklahoma. A full blood Comanche Indian, he was named "Joyce" in honor of Dr. Joyce who delivered him and nicknamed "Doc" because of their relationship. Orphaned at the age of 13, he went to live with his grandparents who strengthened his Comanche heritage; and

WHEREAS, Doc Tate Nevaquaya had many occupations including teacher, Methodist lay minister, dancer, composer, singer, historian, painter and flutist. Although he considered himself a painter first, it is acknowledged that his role in reviving Native American flute playing may have saved an art that would have been lost forever. He first heard the flute at the age of seven and in his early teens found a flute in a trunk purchased at a pawn shop. As an adult he made his own flutes and restored the haunting music that was all but lost to the Native American culture; and

WHEREAS, Doc Tate appeared during "A Night of the First Americans" at the Kennedy Center, in Washington, D.C., and in 1990 he was the first Native American to perform at Carnegie Hall. He performed at the Smithsonian Institute and presented concerts and lectures throughout Europe and the Far East; and

WHEREAS, Doc Tate painted in the traditional Native American style. He began his painting in the 1950s and won numerous awards for his work which gives a historical record of not only his Comanche heritage but also of the Osage, Sioux and Northern Crow; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Doc Tate was the first Oklahoman to win the National Heritage Fellowship Award, which was presented by the National Endowment for the Arts and entitled him to be designated a Heritage Fellow. He was honored as a flutist and a master of traditional arts; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Doc Tate was selected the Red Earth Honored One for his significant contributions to Native American art forms; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Doc Tate was honored during the Twentieth Annual Governor's Arts Award ceremony at the State Capitol, where he was designated an Oklahoma Treasure and received the Allan Houser Medallion. An Oklahoma Treasure designee must have been born or practiced their skill, talent or knowledge as a citizen of Oklahoma; be a bearer of intangible cultural assets; have received prior recognition for their skills, talent or knowledge; and have outstanding artistic or historical worth; and

WHEREAS, Doc Tate was only the second Oklahoma Treasure designee, following the designation of Chickasaw storyteller Te Ata in 1987. He accepted the honor with "humility and a feeling of great responsibility"; and

WHEREAS, Doc Tate Nevaquaya died Tuesday, March 5, 1996, at Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma. His services will be held at Fort Sill Indian School at one o'clock in the afternoon, Thursday, March 7, 1996.

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 honors the memory of the late Doc Tate Nevaquaya.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature expresses its sympathy to his family, the Comanche people, the state, the nation, and artists everywhere.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Mrs. Charlotte Nevaquaya; the State Arts Council; Red Earth, Inc.; and the National Endowment for the Arts.