ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 53

By: Brown, Mickle, Bell, 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, Monson, Muegge, Pierce, Price, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Rubottom, Shedrick, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), Williams (Penny) and Wright of the Senate

and

Toure of the House

A Concurrent Resolution expressing appreciation to the people of Iowa for demonstrating their support for Oklahoma; saluting the State of Iowa on its 150th Anniversary; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in November 1995, a memorial tree garden was planted at the State Capitol Complex as a tribute to those who died in the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the memorial was a gift from the State of Iowa and the Iowa State Horticultural Society in observance of the 150th Anniversary of the statehood of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the late Dan Cooper, former Iowa State Horticulturist, and the officers of the Iowa State Horticultural Society, conceived the idea of the memorial garden, as a way of remembering the victims while providing a living memorial for their families and others; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Horticultural Society donated the trees and an irrigation system, and approximately 200 Iowa citizens journeyed to Oklahoma City to build the memorial. The gift was formally presented by Iowa Governor Terry Brandstad and members of the Iowa State Horticultural Society; and

WHEREAS, at the dedication, Governor Brandstad said, "This memorial stands not as a remembrance of death, but as a celebration of life". Governor Brandstad, noting that the people of Iowa remember the support provided by the people of Oklahoma two years earlier when floods devastated much of Iowa, added, "There were many from Oklahoma who came to our rescue during our time of need"; and

WHEREAS, the garden is comprised of 150 Littleleaf Lindens, one for each of the bombing's adult victims, and 19 Prairiefire Crabapple trees, representing each of the children killed in the blast. The Linden trees were planted on 16-foot to 18-foot centers in a grid called a "bosque" so that when viewed from any point, the trees form a straight line; and

WHEREAS, the grove will represent a fresh beginning as it comes to life each spring with the sweet fragrance of the Littleleaf

Lindens' flowers and the brilliant floral display of the crabapple trees. Kris Early, president of the Iowa State Horticultural Society, expressed the feeling behind the gift, saying, "Because we care, we bring you this living memorial. Because others care, no one is truly alone"; and

WHEREAS, Iowa, the Hawkeye State, whose motto is "Our Liberties We Prize and Our Rights We Will Maintain", will celebrate its 150th Anniversary on December 28, 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, on behalf of the people of Oklahoma, expresses deep appreciation to the Iowa State Horticultural Society and the people of Iowa for their demonstration of support for Oklahoma during one of our state's darkest hours.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature salutes the State of Iowa on its 150th Anniversary.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Iowa Governor Terry Brandstad and the Iowa State Horticultural Society.