

ENROLLED SENATE

RESOLUTION NO. 36 By: Hendrick, Bell, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Cole, Dickerson, Douglass, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, 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, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), Williams (Penny) and Wright

A Resolution honoring Betty Jones Cooke as 1996 Oklahoma Mother of the Year; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Betty Jones was born February 6, 1926, in Morristown, Tennessee. Following graduation from the University of Tennessee, Betty was employed by American Airlines as a stewardess. Based in Newark, New Jersey, she met Everette E. Cooke, a resident physician at Jersey Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jones married Everette Cooke December 17, 1948, and moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where Everette went into private surgical practice. Betty's life centered around her family, her husband, their six sons, James Donald, Robert Northington, Richard Ellis, William Everette, Steven Anderson and Alan Jones, and later their sixteen grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jones Cooke developed a philosophy of parenting based on the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule. Betty believes a parent should be patient, keep an open door, be aware of every child's uniqueness, provide encouragement, forbid gossip and learn about a child's interests and dreams for the future. She believes that a parent should LOVE children, individually and unconditionally; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jones Cooke emphasized the value of education. She was President of the PTA at every school her children attended and homeroom mother for each of them. Betty also taught Sunday School at her church for many years. Five of her sons were enrolled simultaneously at the University of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jones Cooke is a leader in many charitable associations. After caring for her husband until his death from cancer in 1990, Betty continued to be active in family, church and civic activities. She is a board member and past president of the Oklahoma County Medical Auxiliary; a charter member of the Kiwi Club, a national group organized in 1954 by former American Airlines stewardesses; former head of the Oklahoma State Council for the Handicapped; past president and current board member of the Health Sciences Center Women's Association; she served as chair of the Heart Ball, a fundraiser for the Oklahoma Heart Association and is active in the Chapel Hill United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jones Cooke recently received the Redlands Council of the Girl Scouts of America award as "Homemaker of the Year". She was recognized on Mother's Day 1983 by Governor Nigh, who declared it "Betty Cooke Appreciation Day"; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Kiwi Club nominated Betty Jones Cooke as Mother of the Year.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors Betty Jones Cooke as 1996 Oklahoma Mother of the Year.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Betty Jones Cooke and the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Kiwi Club.