

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 45th Legislature (1996)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. 1050

By: Hager

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution relating to support and respect of teachers; requesting a public apology from the Governor for certain negative remark relating to teachers; calling for support and respect of teachers; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, teachers in this state have one of the most challenging jobs in educating our children; and

WHEREAS, teaching is a profession which requires not only a high level of education and training but dedication; and

WHEREAS, the teaching profession has made great strides in recent years in implementing improvements in teacher recruitment and training and improving the image of the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, the teachers in this state need the support and respect of parents, governmental officials and the public in order to effectively do the job of educating our children; and

WHEREAS, Governor Frank Keating at a press conference and quoted in the "Daily Oklahoman" on February 7, 1996, responded to a question relating to bonuses for outstanding teachers by stating that "because the other 24 teachers are slugs"; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's remark referring to some teachers as "slugs" was disrespectful of the teachers in this state; and

WHEREAS, such negative remarks made by high profile public officials such as the Governor can greatly influence the public's perception and therefore be highly detrimental.

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

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives requests Governor Frank Keating to make a public apology to all teachers in the state for his callous remark made about teachers on February 6, 1996.

THAT Governor Frank Keating and all public officials through their words and actions make every effort to show respect and support for the teachers of this state.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Secretary of Education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the President of the Oklahoma Education Association.

45-2-9247

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