

SHORT TITLE: Commending Mark Sterling for his unstinting efforts and heroic actions; mourning the loss of valiant Ben; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 45th Legislature (1996)

SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 48

By: Haney

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution commending Mark Sterling for his unstinting efforts and heroic actions; mourning the loss of valiant Ben; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on April 19, 1995, at 9:25 a.m., Deputy Mark D. Sterling of the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office arrived at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building site with his K-9 dog, Ben, a trained explosives detector. Without regard for their own lives, Mark and Ben began searching the area for more explosive devices; and

WHEREAS, for the next month, Mark and Ben answered over 30 bomb threats, averaging 20 hours of work per day. On May 19, 1995, Ben collapsed during a bomb threat in the blast area. Two months later Ben died, having devoted his life to the protection of the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Ben, a commissioned K-9 dog with the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, was honored for his acts of heroism and subsequently received many honors from the United States Congress and the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Mark Sterling, a Canine Officer with the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, has been honored for his many acts of heroism and humanitarianism, receiving numerous honors from the United States Congress and the State of Oklahoma.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Deputy Mark Sterling for  
his unstinting efforts and heroic actions.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate mourns the loss of valiant Ben.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Mark Sterling  
and the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office.

45-2-2749

THC