

ENROLLED SENATE

RESOLUTION NO. 69 By: Weedn, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Dickerson, Douglass, Dunlap, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Kerr, Laughlin, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long, Maddox, Martin, Mickle, Milacek, Monson, Morgan, Muegge, Price, Rabon, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Wilcoxson, Wilkerson, Williams, Williamson and Wright

A Resolution declaring the week of May 3-9, 1998, as Public Service Recognition Week in the State of Oklahoma; encouraging Oklahoma citizens to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of public employees; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, more than 250 million Americans are served every day by the approximately 20 million public employees who provide a wide range of services. Public employees take not just jobs but oaths; and

WHEREAS, many public employees risk their lives each day for the sake of the people of the United States whom they serve as police officers, firefighters, border patrol officers, embassy employees, military personnel, health care professionals and others whose jobs entail great personal risk; and

WHEREAS, public employees include the teachers in our public schools; health care professionals to administer vaccines; computer technicians to process Social Security and Veterans benefits, unemployment checks and food stamps; safety inspectors for power plants, mines and aircraft; food inspectors who ensure the safety of our commodities; laborers who maintain roads and bridges; transportation employees who provide safe passage to our destination; and all the other public employees who provide a myriad of services demanded by the American people of their government; and

WHEREAS, without these public employees at every level there could be no continuity in our democracy which regularly changes its leaders and elected officials. Yet, to pay for the high quality of these public services, Americans have one of the lowest tax rates in the world; and

WHEREAS, a number of organizations of public employees established Public Service Recognition Week to call citizens' attention to the important role that public employees and volunteers play in maintaining and improving our communities. Public Service Recognition Week is a way to spread the knowledge of how much all of us rely on public employees to provide services, maintain safety and safeguard public funds; and

WHEREAS, public employees in Oklahoma have responded to bombings, floods, tornadoes and other emergencies. Oklahoma public employees have brought up graduation rates, kept our skies safe and protect the lives and property of all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, in Oklahoma, public employees and their organizations will celebrate Public Service Recognition Week by preparing displays at malls, creating public service announcements, developing stories

in newspapers and the electronic media and speaking to schools and other groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate declares May 3-9, 1998, as Public Service Recognition Week in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages Oklahoma citizens to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of public employees.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, the Oklahoma Federal Executive Board, the State Office of Personnel Management, the State Department of Education, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Oklahoma Municipal League and the County Officers and Deputies Association.

Adopted by the Senate the 4th day of May, 1998.

President of the Senate