ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 23 By: Harrison, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Dickerson, Douglass, Dunlap, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, 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, Weedn, Wilcoxson, Wilkerson, Williams, Williamson and Wright

A Resolution mourning the loss of the late Senator John Dahl; extending condolences to his family; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, John Lee Dahl was born on February 9, 1920, in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of Hans and Margaret Virginia Battles Dahl. His family moved to Avant, Oklahoma, when he was three months old. When he was eight years old, his family moved to Barnsdall, Oklahoma, where John Dahl remained until his death; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl graduated from Barnsdall High School in 1939 where he served as class president for four years and captain of the football team. His studies at Western Kentucky Teacher's College in Bowling Green were interrupted by the Second World War. John Dahl married Lucille Shaw on June 20, 1942; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl enlisted in the U.S. Army on October 5, 1942, and served with the 45th Infantry Division. He also served in the Korean Conflict. He attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before receiving an honorable discharge in 1967. John Dahl was employed as an engineer and safety inspector for Bareco Oil Company after his military service. He continued in the oil and gas production business throughout the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl was elected to the Oklahoma State Senate in 1970 where he served until 1990. Senator Dahl served as Chair of the Agriculture Committee and the Wildlife Committee. John Dahl was honored by the 2nd Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature when it passed House Concurrent Resolution 1088, designating April 5, 1994, as John Dahl Day; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl was a rancher and had a great interest in farming and agriculture throughout the state. He was recognized by the Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association for outstanding support to agriculture and received an award from the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association for his active support, encouragement and assistance to the cattle industry. The Wichita District Farm Credit Council recognized Dahl for his fight to relieve the financial plight of farmers. He also received acknowledgements from the Oklahoma Association of County Extension Agents and Oklahoma State University Division of Agriculture. Senator John Dahl served for nine years as Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee. He considered his brucellosis testing law as his major legislative accomplishment in this field; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl served as Chair of the Senate Wildlife Committee. He was awarded a plaque from the Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Wildlife Conservation Commission renamed an area near Foraker, in Osage County, as the John Dahl Wildlife Management Area. The Hans Dahl Youth Fishing Clinic was held on the Dahl ranch. The clinic

was named for John Dahl's father and was co-sponsored by Dahl, his wife Lucille and the Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Oklahoma Rifle Association honored him for his efforts to preserve the right to keep and bear arms. John Dahl was twice recognized by the Grand River Dam Authority for efforts that culminated in the construction of two electrical generating stations. A road at Langley, near Grand Lake, is named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl was most proud of his instrumental role in the establishment of the Dick Connor Correctional Center at Hominy. In 1995, a new building was dedicated as the John L. Dahl Minimum Security Unit. John Dahl was a great supporter of the Jim Thorpe Memorial Center as he continually promoted its funding and improvement; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl was a strong supporter of education. The Barnsdall public school system honored him by naming a new athletic building "The John Dahl Athletic Building". He was the author of the Oklahoma G.I. Bill that granted free tuition at the state's vocational-technical schools to Vietnam veterans; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl succeeded in having State Highway 3 between Tom and Boise City named in honor of the 45th Infantry Division and those who made the supreme sacrifice. A portion of U.S. 60 and Oklahoma 99 is named the John Dahl Avenue to commemorate his efforts in reconstruction of the highway. John Dahl was credited with the "Sales Tax Relief Act" which reduced taxes on people with low incomes; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl was an avid advocate of country and western music. For many years he was the sponsor of Bob Wills Day at the State Capitol. He was responsible for passage of legislation naming the "fiddle" as Oklahoma's state musical instrument and "Faded Love" as the state's country and western song. Senator Dahl was known in the Oklahoma State Senate as the "patron of country music". He received honorary induction into the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame. One of the tunes played at his funeral was the "John Dahl Waltz"; and

WHEREAS, John Dahl, after a long illness, died at his ranch home on Thursday, March 20, 1997. He is survived by Lucille F. Shaw Dahl, his wife of 54 years; four daughters, Frances Lee Berg, Sharon Ann Stephens, Terri Jo Gann and Elizabeth "Beth" Gail Dahl; three sons-in law; ten grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers, Leroy Dahl and Tom Eugene Dahl; and one sister, Dorothy Brewer. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Amund Dahl and Melvin Dahl.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate mourns the loss of the late Senator John Dahl.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate extends sincere and heartfelt condolences to John Dahl's family on behalf of the citizens of this state.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Lucille F. Shaw Dahl; and daughters Frances Lee Berg, Sharon Ann Stephens, Terri Jo Gann and Elizabeth "Beth" Gail Dahl.