

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1044

By: Hager

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution memorializing the contributions of screen actor Ben Johnson; designating U.S. Highway 60 from Washington County line to junction of U.S. Highway 60 and State Highway 99 as the Ben Johnson Memorial Highway; directing the Department of Transportation to place appropriate markers; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson was recognized by many to be the last real cowboy to grace the silver screen with his sincere western authenticity and supreme horsemanship abilities; and

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson started his Hollywood career as a stuntman, stock wrangler and rodeo cowboy, working as a stunt double for Henry Fonda and John Wayne; and

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson went on to star in such memorable classic films as "Mighty Joe Young", "She Wore A Yellow Ribbon", "The Wagon Master", "Rio Grande", "Shane", "The Wild Bunch", "Will Penny", and "The Last Picture Show"; and

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson is the only person to win a World Championship for team roping and an Academy Award for his portrayal of Sam the Lion in "The Last Picture Show"; and

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson showed his endless compassion to those less fortunate with the sponsorship of annual charitable celebrity rodeo events; and

WHEREAS, Ben Johnson was not only a great humanitarian, but also a great Oklahoman and American.

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

THAT the portion of U.S. Highway 60 from the Washington County line to the junction of U.S. Highway 60 and State Highway 99 be designated as the "Ben Johnson Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to legendary screen actor Ben Johnson.

THAT the Department of Transportation shall cause suitable permanent markers to be placed on the highway bearing the name "Ben Johnson Memorial Highway".

THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Helen Christenson, Ann Whitehorn, Ben Miller, John Miller, Ollie Rider, and to the Department of Transportation.

46-1-7562

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