

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1089

By: Satterfield of the House

and

Morgan of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution commemorating the 50th Highway Patrol Academy; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on April 20, 1937, Governor E.W. Marland signed into law an act creating the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety with headquarters at Northwest 10th and Broadway in Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, the first Commissioner of Public Safety, J.M. "Bud" Gentry, developed the framework for a professional law enforcement agency and, in May of the same year, issued a call for applicants who wished to become the first troopers in the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, after narrowing a field of 500 applicants to 140 of the best qualified men, the First Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy commenced on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in Norman; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1937, 85 men graduated from this first academy, donned their uniforms and were dispatched to their various field assignments around the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol has grown from this initial group of graduates to over 600 troopers in 1997; and

WHEREAS, the 50th Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy is currently in progress at the Robert R. Lester Training Center in Oklahoma City, where 67 of Oklahoma's best are being trained in traffic and criminal law, self-defense, firearms, emergency vehicle operations, traffic contact, first responder, physical training, breathalyzer, and police relations; and

WHEREAS, the cadets of the 50th Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy will graduate on June 3, 1998, from the 18-week academy, having immersed themselves in and adopted the strict, professional standards which are the hallmark of the officers of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol; and

WHEREAS, these academy graduates will become an integral part of the Department of Public Safety, which is comprised of many divisions, all of which work together toward the common goal of helping to preserve the peace and safety of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety celebrates its sixtieth year as a state agency during the year commencing on April 20, 1997, and is proud to honor its 50th Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy within the same anniversary year.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature hereby commemorates the 50th Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy of the Department of Public Safety and extends its heartfelt wishes for a distinguished career in the Oklahoma Highway Patrol for each of the graduates.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature memorializes those officers of the Department of Public Safety who have selflessly given their

lives in service to their fellow Oklahomans, as they shall always hold a special place in our hearts and lives.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature supports the Department of Public Safety in the faithful and diligent execution of its mission of working to provide a safe and secure environment for the public through courteous, high quality and professional services.

THAT a copy of this resolution shall be distributed to Bob Ricks, the Commissioner of Public Safety; Gary Adams, Chief of the Highway Patrol; and Lieutenant John Matlock, Commandant of the 50th Oklahoma Highway Patrol Academy.

46-2-11138

LAC