

SHORT TITLE: Resolution mourning the loss of Dr. Francis Tuttle;
extending condolences to his family; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 10

By: Morgan and Williams of the
Senate

and

Ingmire and Wells of the
House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution mourning the loss of Dr. Francis Tuttle; extending condolences to his family; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Francis Tuttle was born in Wellston, Oklahoma, 76 years ago. Francis Tuttle earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Education from Oklahoma State University and a Masters and Doctorate in Education from the University of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle served as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army in the southwest Pacific during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle began his career in education as vocational agriculture instructor at Gotebo and Snyder in southwestern Oklahoma then as school superintendent at Gotebo, Holdenville and Muskogee, Oklahoma. Dr. Tuttle served for three years as coordinator for area vocational-technical education for the State Board of Vocational Education before being selected as State Director of Vocational Education and his numerous publications spanned four decades; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle served as Director of the Oklahoma Vocational and Technical Education system for 18 years until his retirement from that position in 1986. Dr. Tuttle is credited with convincing Governor Henry Bellmon to create the state vocational-technical system and persuading Governor Dewey Bartlett to provide

significant funding. On his retirement, a gathering of 2,000 education and business leaders met at the Civic Center in Oklahoma City to honor "Mr. Vo-Tech" in a special ceremony. During his tenure as Director, Dr. Tuttle oversaw the creation of 24 area vocational-technical schools on 40 campuses. Today the vo-tech system has 29 vo-tech school districts with 54 campuses including more than 1,300 comprehensive high school vo-tech programs, and 13 vo-tech skill centers for inmates, offering nearly 50 programs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle, after retiring as Director from the vocational-technical system, was appointed Director of the Oklahoma Department of Economic Development by Governor George Nigh. Dr. Tuttle also served as Oklahoma's Secretary of Commerce. Dr. Tuttle served two years in this position before permanently retiring from public service. He also served as the Executive Director of the North Central Oklahoma Economic Development Association, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle was one of the first three persons inducted into the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame and one of the first ten inductees into the Oklahoma Vo-Tech Hall of Fame. In 1980 the Francis Tuttle Area Vo-Tech School in Oklahoma City was named in his honor and the Oklahoma chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) recognized him as Oklahoma Public Administrator of the Year. In 1982, Dr. Tuttle received the Henry G. Bennett Distinguished Service Award from Oklahoma State University. In 1986, he was elected President of the 43,000-member American Vocational Association (AVA) and traveled across the nation seeking national support for vocational education. In 1990 he was inducted into the Oklahoma State University Hall of Fame and received the O.S.U. College of Agriculture Distinguished Alumni Award. In 1996, Dr. Tuttle was the winner of the American Vocational Association's Carl Perkins Humanitarian Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle served until his death as Director Emeritus of the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education which is considered the best in the nation and is used as a model by other states. Dr. Tuttle was considered an international authority in vocational and technical education as well as economic development. Dr. Tuttle served as a consultant for Sweden, Thailand, the former Soviet Union and China; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis Tuttle, the 76-year-old Father of Oklahoma's Vocational and Technical Education System, died Wednesday, February 12, 1997, at the Stillwater Medical Center. Governor Frank Keating, in Executive Order 97-01, directed that all American flags on state property be flown at half staff to honor Dr. Francis Tuttle.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature mourns the loss of Dr. Francis Tuttle.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature extends condolences to the family of Francis Tuttle.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Vivian; his sons, Denny and Al Tuttle; and his daughter, Kay Black.

46-1-1110

THC