

SHORT TITLE: Congratulating the Reverend Dick Virtue on the 25th anniversary of his ministry; wishing him continued success; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE

RESOLUTION NO. 17

By: Taylor and Hobson

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution congratulating the Reverend Dick Virtue on the 25th anniversary of his ministry; wishing him continued success; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, April 4, 1997, marks the 25th anniversary of the Norman Alcohol Information Center (NAIC), Oklahoma's first private, nonprofit outpatient agency to fight alcohol and drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, the roots of the Norman Alcohol Information Center may be traced to a Thursday afternoon "Alcohol Concern Group" which met at Saint John's Episcopal Church in Norman; and

WHEREAS, a member of this group was the Reverend Dick Virtue, an ordained deacon serving Saint John's Episcopal Church, who is also a recovering alcoholic; and

WHEREAS, by the grace of God, the initial faith of the National Episcopal Churchwomen, the United Way of Norman, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and through the financial support of foundation, church, corporate and individual gifts, the original vision of the Norman Alcohol Information Center has expanded to provide multiple therapeutic, educational and training services to the community of Norman as well as regional groups and agencies; and

WHEREAS, the greatest blessing of all has been the leadership, compassion and wisdom demonstrated one day at a time by the only individual ever to hold the position of Executive Director of the Norman Alcohol Information Center, the Reverend Dick Virtue, who was

ordained to the Episcopal priesthood in 1973 under a canon of the Church providing for special ministry to those suffering from alcoholism.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates the Reverend Dick Virtue on the 25th anniversary of his ministry.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate wishes the Reverend Dick Virtue continued success in his ministry.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Reverend Dick Virtue, Executive Director, Norman Alcohol Information Center.

46-1-1324

THC