SHORT TITLE: Congratulating Ray Henson upon his selection as National Chair of the North Central Association; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 30 By: Dickerson, Stipe and Rabon

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution congratulating Ray Henson upon his selection as National Chair of the North Central Association; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Ray Henson graduated from Eastern Oklahoma State College at Wilburton with an Associate Degree, Northeastern State University at Tahlequah with a Bachelor of Science, and the University of Tulsa with a Master of Science in School Administration. Henson has professional certification in superintendent studies from the University of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Ray Henson started his education career in 1966 as a science teacher in Kinta, Oklahoma. Henson served as high school principal and basketball coach in Glenpool, Oklahoma, before coming to Talihina, Oklahoma in 1971. He has been superintendent at Talihina since that time; and

WHEREAS, Ray Henson has been active in his community, serving as President of the Talihina Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Talihina Housing Authority. Henson was selected Talihina Citizen of the Year in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Ray Henson has served on the State Superintendent's Advisory Council; been President of the Impact Aid for the State of Oklahoma; served on the Board of Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activity Association for six years and as President for one term; and served as State President for Adult Education. Henson served on the Board of the Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools and will be President-Elect for the term 1997-1998. He was also elected to a two-year

term on the Executive Board on the National Indian Impact Aid Association; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Association is the largest of six regional institutional accrediting associations. The Association is a voluntary coalition of more than 8,000 schools, 600 in Oklahoma, and 1,000 colleges and universities in the 19-state region of the central United States. The Association works with schools to improve the quality of education through a continuing process of accreditation and evaluation; and

WHEREAS, voluntary accreditation of educational institutions, as carried out by accrediting bodies like North Central Association, is a uniquely American process. Voluntary accreditation has two fundamental purposes: quality assurance and institutional and program improvement. Institutional accreditation evaluates an entire institution and accredits it as a whole. An institutional accrediting body evaluates more than the formal educational activities of an institution; it assesses as well such characteristics as governance and administration, financial stability, admissions and student personnel services, institutional resources, student academic achievement, institutional effectiveness, and relationships with constituencies outside the institution; and

WHEREAS, Ray Henson has served on the state North Central Association Committee for seven years and on the National Executive Board for four years. Last year Henson was elected Vice Chair at the North Central Association's annual meeting. This year Ray Henson was seated as the National Chair of the North Central Association. Henson is the first public school official from Oklahoma to hold the National Chair and the first ever elected from a small rural school.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Ray Henson upon his selection as National Chair of the North Central Association.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Ray Henson; the Talihina school system; and the North Central Association.

46-1-1373 THC