

ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 39

By: Mickle of the Senate

and

Dunegan of the House

A Concurrent Resolution designating Durant, Oklahoma, "Magnolia Capital of Oklahoma"; memorializing the Governor to proclaim Durant as "Magnolia Capital of Oklahoma"; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Durant, Oklahoma, is a community with a rich history and tradition laced with many of the nostalgic trappings of the Old South; and

WHEREAS, in 1911, that tradition was assured when Professor E. B. Robbins brought with him seedlings of magnolia trees from his native Mississippi when he joined the faculty of Southeastern Normal School in Durant, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Normal School, now Southeastern Oklahoma State University, became known far and wide as "The Campus of a Thousand Magnolias" when those seedlings grew to maturity and their fragrance filled the springtime air across the town; and

WHEREAS, over time, the magnolia tree became intertwined with Durant's identity, and now these beautiful trees can be found throughout the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Durant's picturesque magnolia-lined streets led to the community becoming known across Oklahoma and around the country as "The City of Magnolias"; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Durant, capitalizing on this unique bit of heritage, held the first Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma in May 1997, permanently bonding the magnolia tree with the future of this community; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 5, and 6, 1999, the Third Annual Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma will be held in Durant, Oklahoma, and the organizers of this impressive event wish to solemnize the bond between the community and this beautiful tree; and

WHEREAS, the Durant City Council and the Board of Directors of the Durant Area Chamber of Commerce have adopted resolutions encouraging the Oklahoma Legislature and the Governor of Oklahoma to join with the community in declaring Durant, Oklahoma, to be the Magnolia Capital of Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature concurs with the City Council of Durant and the Board of Directors of the Durant Area Chamber of Commerce that the City of Durant, Oklahoma, is now and forever will be known as the "Magnolia Capital of Oklahoma".

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature memorializes Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, to join the citizens and businesses of Durant, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma State Legislature, by proclaiming Durant, Oklahoma, as the "Magnolia Capital of Oklahoma".

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Honorable Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma; the Honorable David Norris, Mayor of the City of Durant; the Honorable Glen D. Johnson, President of the Durant Area Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. Jay Paul Gumm, Executive Director of the Durant Area Chamber of Commerce.

Adopted by the Senate the 17th day of May, 1999.

President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 18th day of May, 1999.

Speaker of the House of Representatives