

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 58

By: Helton and Maddox

A Resolution praising the works of R.L. and Billie Smith for Meet the Needs Ministry; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in May of last year, R.L. and Billie Smith felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to meet the needs of those living in poverty. They were able to raise \$2,000 through a fund-raising effort sponsored by Outback Steakhouse. As a result, the organization, Meet the Needs Ministry, became operational. Meet the Needs Ministry has won tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service and has been recognized as a nonprofit organization by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the husband-and-wife team's mission offers financial and material assistance to the working poor and elderly of Lawton, Oklahoma. R.L. Smith, an officer with the Lawton Police Department, is always meeting people needing help. Officer Smith works for Meet the Needs Ministry every day off he has and every opportunity available. His wife, Billie Smith, works raising support for the ministry; and

WHEREAS, Meet the Needs Ministry has provided cars to four single mothers who needed transportation, but could not afford vehicles. Last winter the organization provided 300 winter coats and 900 clothing items to the needy. It also helped provide Christmas gifts for 30 families. Every Saturday the Smiths feed approximately 20 elderly people with food provided by Wal-Mart, Ryan's Steakhouse, Homeland, and Country Mart; and

WHEREAS, this summer the organization will be sponsoring a lawn-mowing program for teens. Meet the Needs Ministry will provide mowers and weed eaters. Program participants keep the money they earn. However, each participant will be assigned to care for the lawn of an elderly person without charge. Meet the Needs Ministry will also deliver fans and air conditioners to those in need this summer; and

WHEREAS, last winter the Meet the Needs Ministry was able to provide transportation for a terminally-ill cancer patient to attend weekly chemotherapy treatments in Oklahoma City. The family's car often broke down during the trip. While the individual died of a rare form of cancer, the Smiths were able to make his life better during his last days; and

WHEREAS, earlier this year the Lawton City Council honored R.L. and Billie Smith as co-citizens of the month for their work with Meet the Needs Ministry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the works of R. L. and Billie Smith for Meet the Needs Ministry.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to R.L. and Billie Smith of Meet the Needs Ministry in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Adopted by the Senate the 25th day of May, 2000.

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President of the Senate