

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 7

By: Haney

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution honoring the memory of Oklahoma Congressional Medal of Honor winner John R. Crews; directing the Department of Transportation to erect certain signage near Bowlegs, Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, John R. Crews was born in Golden, Oklahoma, on March 8, 1923, the son of Isaac and Adela Crews. He was drafted into the United States Army in December 1942 and served at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, John R. Crews was promoted to Staff Sergeant, awarded two Bronze Stars, and transferred to the 63rd Infantry Division. On April 8, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge, near Lobenbacherhof, Germany, he won the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant John R. Crews, on his own initiative, stormed an enemy machine gun nest along with two other soldiers. One of his companions was killed, the other badly wounded, but Sergeant Crews reached his objective, killed two enemy soldiers and subdued a third in hand-to-hand combat. He then turned his attention to an automatic rifle emplacement, charged the position, and, although badly wounded, with deadly rifle fire silenced it. A total of 27 enemy soldiers, unnerved by his heroism, surrendered while other enemy soldiers fled from the fray; and

WHEREAS, when President Harry Truman presented the Congressional Medal of Honor in June 1948 and asked "Where did you get the courage to fight like you did?" John R. Crews replied, "I learned at home

that you do everything you're told. I saw no difference in my military orders"; and

WHEREAS, John R. Crews, a modest man who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Purple Heart, Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, Combat Infantryman's Badge and was also inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, died September 25, 1999.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 48TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the memory of Oklahoma Congressional Medal of Honor recipient John R. Crews.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate directs the Department of Transportation to erect signage saying "Bowlegs, Oklahoma, Home of John R. Crews, WWII Congressional Medal of Honor" to be placed on State Highway 99 (US 377) around the community of Bowlegs in Seminole County, Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Sue Tuma Crews; sons, John Crews and Mark Crews; daughters, Phyllis Engle and Diana Moore; brother, Marion Crews; and sisters, Vera Eubanks and Bernice Dawson; and the Department of Transportation.

48-1-1058

THC

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