

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION HCR1042

By: Covey of the House

and

Kerr of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the City of Clinton, Oklahoma, upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne and Arapaho territory in western Oklahoma was opened by a land run to settlement on April 19, 1892; and

WHEREAS, Congress, prior to the Cheyenne-Arapaho land opening of 1892, granted one hundred sixty acres of choice to each member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. The land which would eventually become the City of Clinton was chosen by four Cheyenne Indians (Shoe Boy, Darwin Hays, Nightkiller and Nowahay) prior to the land opening of 1892 because it was near the Washita River and offered a water supply and fertile land; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1900s, the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad coming from the east and the Orient Railroad coming from the northeast were to converge at a point called Washita Junction and a townsite company was formed by T.J. Nance and others who wanted to acquire the land owned by the Cheyenne Indians, but could not because the Indians were prohibited from selling their land. The townsite company lobbied Congress successfully to get a bill passed making it possible for each of the four Cheyenne Indians to sell one-half of the one hundred sixty acres they each owned to the townsite company; and

WHEREAS, litigation opposing the sale of the land by the Indians to the townsite company followed which was finally settled by the territorial jurist Clinton Irwin which caused the townsite company to change the name of the new town from Washita Junction to Clinton; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1900s community leaders worked hard to attract businesses such as the Strange Jones Company and many early day companies which have changed hands and names several times and state institutions such as the TB Sanatorium which became the Oklahoma Veteran's Center in the early 1970s and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation District Office; and

WHEREAS, more recently Clinton city leaders have attracted such businesses as Freightliner, Doane Pet Care Products and Bar-S Products and in the mid-1990s successfully raised the funds to rededicate the State Tourism Museum to the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. These leaders continue to develop many local points of tourist attractions such as the developing Acme Brick Park and the Centennial Train project; and

WHEREAS, Clinton is nicknamed "The Hub City" because of its transportation background with first rail traffic and then the development of highways and Clinton is located at a point where Highway 183 and Interstate 40 (Highway 66) intersect; and

WHEREAS, Clinton has a unique and colorful past history and the certainty of a bright future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clinton is celebrating its centennial in 2003 with the Clinton Centennial Celebration scheduled for September 13-20, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature honors the City of Clinton, Oklahoma, upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Mayor of Clinton, the Oklahoma Municipal League and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

49-1-7094        ARE        05/27/03