

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 28

By: Hobson, Fisher, Williamson
and Branan of the Senate

and

Adair, Hilliard, Rice,
Hiett and Morgan (Fred) of
the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution praising the life and career of the late Edward L. Gaylord; extending condolences to his family and friends; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord was born May 28, 1919, to E.K. and Inez Gaylord. He earned a Bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a Master's Degree from Harvard. During World War II he served in the Army Air Force, entering as a private but departing as a Captain; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord was deeply involved in publishing, entertainment, and the media. He served as editor and publisher of "The Oklahoman" beginning in 1974 as well as Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Publishing Company. Combining the latest technology with a keen sense of business, Edward L. Gaylord blended them with his strong sense of patriotism to both promote his views and make a profit; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord will be well remembered for his philanthropic endeavors, especially to educational institutions since he believed that education was the key to opportunity. The Gaylord family donated \$22 million to the University of Oklahoma to build a College of Journalism. He also agreed to give \$2 million a year for twenty years to Oklahoma Christian University. It was his

gift on behalf of his family of \$12 million to the University of Oklahoma to complete the expansion of the football stadium that led the Regents to rename the stadium The Gaylord Family—Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. He also generously donated funds to Oklahoma State University, Phillips University, Tulsa University, and Oklahoma Baptist University; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord was a firm believer in family ideals, Christian music, reliance on individual responsibilities and limited government. His belief in traditional values was reflected in his support of Oklahoma City's National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord excelled as a civic leader. As President of the Oklahoma State Fair in Oklahoma City, he rescued the event from financial ruin; within ten years it was profitable and successful. He served as President of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and chaired the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Board. As Chair of the Oklahoma City Industries Authority for more than 30 years, Edward L. Gaylord brought hundreds of thousands of jobs and a billion dollars worth of facilities to the Oklahoma City area. He purchased a majority interest in Oklahoma City's minor league baseball team to keep it in the community; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Gaylord's former business partner in the Texas Rangers Baseball Club said it best. President of the United States George Bush described Edward L. Gaylord as "a shining example of generosity, patriotism and dedication to helping others".

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature praises the life and career of the late Edward L. Gaylord, a giant in journalism and a steady cornerstone of both Oklahoma City and the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature extends its most sincere condolences to Edward L. Gaylord's family, friends, co-workers, and all those who were touched by his generosity.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his children, Christy Everest, Louise Bennett, E.K. Gaylord II, and Mary McClean; and to his sister, Virginia Neely.

49-1-1443

THC

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