

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

SENATE  
RESOLUTION 20

By: Monson

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution recognizing the many accomplishments of Vicki Miles-LaGrange; congratulating her upon the occasion of being inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Vicki Miles-LaGrange was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on September 30, 1953, the daughter of Charles Miles and Mary Greenard Miles. Her parents, both educators, encouraged her intellectual development and instilled in her the value of education and a commitment to lifelong learning. Vicki Miles-LaGrange grew up in Oklahoma City's historically black northeast side and vividly remembers the pride and prejudice in fighting for civil rights during the 1960s and 1970s. She admired the commitment to nonviolent social change of Martin Luther King, Jr., and watched as Clara Luper, Reverend W. K. Jackson, and E. Melvin Porter led the effort to integrate Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Miles-LaGrange graduated from Vassar College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1974 and from Howard University School of Law in 1977. While in law school, she worked as a staff member in the Washington, D.C., office of Oklahoma Congressman Carl Albert. Following her graduation from law school, Vicki Miles-LaGrange served as a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Woodrow Seals of the Southern District of Texas, becoming the first African American to serve as a law clerk for a federal district judge in South Texas. She also served as a law clerk for United States District Judge Luther Bohanon. Vicki Miles-LaGrange served as a trial attorney and

as a Honorary Law Graduate Fellow in the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Miles-LaGrange returned to Oklahoma City in 1983, joining the Oklahoma City District Attorney's Office as Assistant District Attorney for Oklahoma County where she prosecuted sex crimes and DUIs. In 1986 she was elected from District 48 to the Oklahoma State Senate where she ably chaired the Judiciary Committee and sponsored legislation improving the quality of life for women, children, and families; making stalking a crime; improving infant and maternal care in Oklahoma; and affording minority contractors a better opportunity to bid for state projects; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 Vicki Miles-LaGrange became the first American woman of African descent to be sworn in as United States Attorney. She served in the Western District of Oklahoma. In 1994, President Clinton nominated, and the United States Senate confirmed, Vicki Miles-LaGrange as United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, thus becoming the first African-American federal district judge in the six states which make up the Tenth Circuit; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Miles-LaGrange coauthored "A Passion for Equality: The Life of Jimmy Stewart" in which she chronicles the life and career of Oklahoma City civil rights and NAACP leader James Edward Stewart. Vicki Miles-LaGrange has served as a Board Member of the Air and Space Museum at the Omniplex in Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma Heritage Association, Vassar College, Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, and the Oklahoma Arts Institute. She was a Special Assistant with the African Development Group in Washington, D.C., and, in 1992, was a delegate to the Global Summit of Women; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Miles-LaGrange was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame on Thursday, March 24, 2003, acknowledging her contributions to the advancement of women and her own personal achievements.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes the many  
accomplishments of Vicki Miles-LaGrange as an author, attorney,  
congressional staffer, law clerk, prosecutor, trial attorney,  
legislator, and judge.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Vicki Miles-  
LaGrange upon the occasion of her induction into the Oklahoma  
Women's Hall of Fame.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Vicki Miles-  
LaGrange and her parents, Charles and Mary Miles.

49-1-1362

THC

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