

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 50

By: Dunlap

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution honoring former Oklahoma State Senator Denzil Garrison; praising his civility; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Denzil D. Garrison was born on November 20, 1926, in Norman, Oklahoma, the son of Joseph Don Garrison, Sr. and Nita Ellen (Smith) Garrison. His father was Superintendent of Schools in Norman, Oklahoma, and he was educated in Norman public schools, graduating from high school in 1944. Denzil Garrison received his Law degree from the University of Oklahoma. He has been in the general practice of law in the City of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, since 1953 and has been admitted to practice before a wide variety of courts. Denzil Garrison has also been an active member of numerous professional legal associations and served as President of the Washington County Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, Denzil Garrison entered the United States Army and attended Basic Training and Field Artillery Officers Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Lieutenant Garrison served in the Field Artillery in the European Theater of Operations during World War II and, as a member of the 45th Infantry Division, was recalled and deployed to Korea where he served as Commander of Battery B, 171st Field Artillery Battalion. He authored "Remembrances of a Redleg: The Story of a Korean War Artilleryman of the 45th Thunderbird Division", which was published by the Oklahoma Heritage Association. He separated from service as a Captain and presently holds the retired rank of Major of Field Artillery. He was inducted

into the Field Artillery Officer's Candidate School's Hall of Fame on June 13, 2003, in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Denzil Garrison is a member of the Reserve Officers Association, the National Guard Association, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the 45th Division Association. He has received a citation from the Veterans of Foreign Wars for patriotism and an award from the Disabled American Veterans, an award from the Oklahoma Bar Association, and a resolution from the Oklahoma State Senate for his work as Defense Counsel for an Oklahoma Marine charged with murder in South Vietnam as the result of a night patrol; and

WHEREAS, Denzil Garrison served as Washington County Attorney during 1955 and 1956. He served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives from 1957 through 1960, holding the position of House Minority Leader in 1958 and 1959. Senator Garrison served in the Oklahoma State Senate from 1961 through 1972. During his Senate career, Senator Garrison was Assistant Minority Leader in 1962 and 1963 and Senate Minority Leader from 1964 through 1972. Senator Garrison was also the first Republican to chair the Senate Judiciary Committee, which he did in 1965 and 1966. From 1976 through 1978, he served as Chief Legislative Aide to Governor David L. Boren. Denzil Garrison has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society since 1970 and served twice as President, from 1984-1987 and 2002 to the present; and

WHEREAS, Denzil Garrison has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Bartlesville Junior Chamber of Commerce, been selected as Outstanding Young Oklahoman of the Year by the Oklahoma State Junior Chamber of Commerce, and has been listed in "Who's Who in America". Denzil Garrison remains involved in the state government when many leave public service after holding elective office. Denzil Garrison has continued to give back to his state. His public service is recognized by both political parties in Oklahoma as a true treasure to our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends and thanks former
Oklahoma State Senator Denzil Garrison, his wife Barbara, son
Charles, daughters Ellen, Kathryn, Elizabeth and Martha, and 16
grandchildren for his many contributions to his District, the
Oklahoma State Senate, and the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises Denzil Garrison's
civility and his ability to engage in the most partisan of battles
while still remaining friendly and on good personal terms with his
opponents.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to former Oklahoma
State Senator Denzil D. Garrison.

49-2-3145

THC

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