

ENGROSSED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 54

By: Rabon, Adelson, Aldridge,
Anderson, Barrington, Bass,
Branan, Brogdon, Cain,
Capps, Coates, Coffee,
Corn, Crain, Crutchfield,
Easley, Eason McIntyre,
Fisher, Ford, Garrison,
Gumm, Harrison, Hobson,
Johnson (Constance),
Johnson (Mike), Jolley,
Justice, Lamb, Laster,
Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich,
Lerblance, Mazzei, Morgan,
Myers, Nichols, Paddack,
Pruitt, Reynolds, Riley,
Schulz, Shurden, Taylor,
Wilcoxson, Williamson,
Wilson and Wyrick of the
Senate

and

Pruett of the House

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the memory of war hero Hal LeFlore Gooding; offering condolences; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Hal LeFlore Gooding was born on September 21, 1931, in Grant, Oklahoma, the son of Jesse Butch and Harriet Marie (Wilkins) Gooding. He graduated from Grant High School, attended Murray State College and, in 1955, graduated from Oklahoma A&M College with a B.S. in Agronomy; and

WHEREAS, Hal LeFlore Gooding served his country in both the National Guard and the United States Army. He was attending Officer Candidate School when his unit was mobilized to Korea. After the lieutenant in his Platoon was killed, he was given a battlefield promotion from Sergeant to Master Sergeant, and continued to command the Platoon until he was discharged. He was a member of the 45th Division, 180th Infantry, Company "F", Second Battalion; and

WHEREAS, one evening, Hal LeFlore Gooding and his Platoon were assigned to defend three Patton tanks that were trapped in a

minefield and in danger of falling into enemy hands. At 2:00 AM, several hundred North Koreans assaulted the Platoon. The first attack was repelled, but a second commenced at 4:00 AM. During the second attack, when one of the crucial BAR gunners was killed, Hal LeFlore Gooding made his way through the minefield to one of the Patton tanks and manned its machine gun, a key factor in repelling the second attack and successfully defending the tanks; and

WHEREAS, Hal LeFlore Gooding was awarded the Korean Service Medal with Bronze Campaign Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Army Occupation Medal, and United Nations Service Medal. He returned home from the war and became a successful rancher and businessman, and was a member of the Masonic Lodge of the 32nd Degree; and

WHEREAS, Hal LeFlore Gooding died on February 27, 2006, at the age of seventy-four.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature honors the memory of Oklahoma war hero Hal LeFlore Gooding.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature mourns the loss of Hal LeFlore Gooding and offers its most sincere condolences to his family, friends, and surviving war-time companions.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Sarah D. Gooding, and his two sons, Jesse Hal "Butch" Gooding and O. Clifton Gooding.

Adopted by the Senate the 22nd day of May, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2006.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives