

ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT

RESOLUTION NO. 1042

By: Rousselot, Jackson and Sullivan of the
House

and

Easley, Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson,
Barrington, Bass, Branan, Brogdon,
Cain, Capps, Coates, Coffee, Corn,
Crain, Crutchfield, 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, Rabon,
Reynolds, Riley, Shurden, Taylor,
Wilcoxson, Williamson, Wilson and
Wyrick of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution designating April 18, 2006,
as McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Waterway to the
World Awareness Day; urging Oklahomans to educate
themselves on the many advantages of commercial
waterborne transportation; linking Oklahoma to
domestic and foreign ports around the globe; and
directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System
(MKARNS) was the largest construction project ever built up to that
time by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at a cost of \$1.2 billion.
The System is 445 miles long and has 18 locks and dams - 13 in
Arkansas and five in Oklahoma. The entire system opened to
commercial traffic in December 1970, connecting it to over 10,000
miles of U.S. inland waterways and the continents of the world; and

WHEREAS, the MKARNS is a multibeneficiary system supporting
water supply, commercial navigation, fish and wildlife conservation,
recreation, hydropower generation and flood control; and

WHEREAS, an investment in excess of \$1 billion has been made in
Oklahoma's public and private ports on the MKARNS; and

WHEREAS, 67 industries in Oklahoma have invested more than \$3
billion in their facilities along the MKARNS, employing more than
5,000 people and generating over \$2.1 billion in sales and \$492.7
million in personal income with an annual domestic waterborne
commerce total of nearly 4 million tons worth over \$1.3 billion; and

WHEREAS, moving freight by barge results in annual cost savings
in excess of \$68 million for Oklahoma farmers, manufacturers, and

consumers compared to the costs of alternative overland modes, thus creating lower rates by truck and rail (or water-compelled rates); and

WHEREAS, hydropower generation in the Arkansas and White River basins displaces 4.3 million kilowatt hours of environmentally clean electricity that would otherwise be generated at plants using nonrenewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, river transportation is the most energy-efficient, environmentally friendly mode of transportation today, creating less air and noise pollution, fossil fuel consumption and traffic congestion than any other means.

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

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature hereby designates April 18, 2006, as McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Waterway to the World Awareness Day in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 28th day of
February, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

Adopted by the Senate the 21st day of March, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the Senate