

ENROLLED HOUSE
RESOLUTION NO. 1014

By: Peterson (Ron), Adkins, Armes, Askins, Auffet, Balkman, Banz, Bengel, Billy, Bingman, Blackburn, Blackwell, Braddock, Brannon, Brown, Calvey, Carey, Cargill, Case, Coody, Cooksey, Covey, Cox, Dank, Denney, DePue, Deutschendorf, DeWitt, Dorman, Duncan, Eddins, Ellis, Gilbert, Glenn, Hamilton, Harrison, Hastings, Hickman, Hiett, Hilliard, Hyman, Ingmire, Jackson, Jett, Johnson, Jones, Kern, Kiesel, Lamons, Liebmann, Lindley, Liotta, Martin, Mass, McCarter, McDaniel, McMullen, McPeak, Miller (Doug), Miller (Ken), Miller (Ray), Morgan (Danny), Morgan (Fred), Morrissette, Nance, Nations, Newport, Perry, Peters, Peterson (Pam), Piatt, Plunk, Pruett, Reynolds, Richardson, Roan, Roggow, Rousselot, Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Shumate, Smaligo, Smithson, Staggs, Steele, Sullivan, Sweeden, Terrill, Thompson, Tibbs, Toure, Trebilcock, Turner, Walker, Wesselhoft, Wilt, Winchester, Worthen, Wright and Young

A Resolution honoring the memory of Ernest Childers; remembering his life and service to his country and his community; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Ernest Childers was born and raised in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, one of five brothers raised by a widowed mother; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Childers entered the National Guard's 45th Infantry Division in 1937, and, being called to active duty during World War II, served with distinction in the European Theater; and

WHEREAS, then Second Lieutenant Childers, while on duty near Oliveto, Italy, on September 22, 1943, and while suffering from a broken instep in his foot, almost single handedly eliminated two German machine gun emplacements and captured an enemy mortar observer, thus saving his men and exhibiting bravery and courage above and beyond the call of duty, an act for which he received the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement in 1965, after attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Mr. Childers, a Native American of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe, devoted much of his time to helping Indian youths and continued to serve his country in the U.S. Department of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Childers passed away on Thursday, March 17, 2005, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death Mr. Childers was the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient still living in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, those who knew him remember Mr. Childers as a warm, friendly man, a hero, a servant to his community, a great Oklahoman, and a great American.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby commends and honors the life of Ernest Childers, thanks him for his service to our country and our state, and sends its heartfelt condolences to Yolanda Childers, his wife of nearly 60 years.

THAT the courage and bravery of Mr. Childers, and the humble and selfless manner in which he led his life, should set an example not only for Native American youth but for all young people across our state.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to Yolanda Childers, and to the principal, teachers, and students of Ernest Childers Middle School in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 24th day of March, 2005.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives