STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1005 By: Shelton

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution commemorating the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born on February 12, 1809, in a one-room log cabin on a farm in Hardin County, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, despite this humble beginning, Abraham Lincoln attained prominence as a lawyer and servant of the people, ultimately becoming one of the greatest and most revered Presidents in the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1834, Abraham Lincoln served four successive terms in the Illinois House of Representatives, where in 1837 he made his first protest against slavery, stating that the institution was "founded on both injustice and bad policy"; and

WHEREAS, in 1837, Abraham Lincoln was admitted to the Illinois Bar and became one of the most highly respected and successful lawyers in the state of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, in 1846, Abraham Lincoln was elected to the United States House of Representatives, serving one term, at the end of which he was offered the Governorship of the Oregon Territory, a position he declined; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which opened the named territories to slavery, drew Abraham Lincoln back into politics and his eloquence during his unsuccessful campaign for

the United States Senate against Stephen A. Douglas drew national attention, bringing him to national prominence; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency by the Republican Party in 1860, was elected as the sixteenth President on November 6, 1860, and took office on March 4, 1861; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln served as President during one of the most tumultuous periods in American history, guiding this nation through the Civil War and ultimately preserving the Union; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, freeing slaves in areas of the Confederacy as those areas came under Union control and making the freeing of slaves in the rebel states an official war goal; and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation became the impetus for the enactment of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, which abolished slavery and established federal enforcement of civil rights; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln has had a lasting influence on the government of this nation, establishing institutions and policies that have continued to this day; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln created the national banking system, established a national currency, established the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and supported the Homestead Act which allowed poor people in the East to obtain land in the West; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln embodied the qualities that every American strives for and his words stand for American beliefs that "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth".

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

THAT the House of Representatives hereby commemorates the anniversary of the birth of one of our greatest Presidents, Abraham Lincoln, on February 12, 2005.

50-1-6624 SD 02/08/05