

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1021

By: Sweeden

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution commemorating the life of Pope John Paul II and recognizing the significant role Pope John Paul II played in the fall of communism and the advancement of human rights.

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II, pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church for twenty-six years, died Saturday, April 2, 2005; and

WHEREAS, this man of God, who was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla on May 18, 1920, in Wadowice, Poland, was renowned throughout the world for his courageous stand against communism and his ceaseless battle for human freedom and world peace; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II served as pope longer than all but two of his 263 predecessors and was an important influence in the lives of Catholics and non-Catholics alike; and

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush called Pope John Paul II "a good and faithful servant of God" and stated "We will always remember the humble, wise and fearless priest who became one of history's great moral leaders."; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II was ordained as a priest in November 1946, became Archbishop of Krakow in 1964, was elevated to cardinal in 1968, and was elected pope on October 16, 1978, the first Slavic pope and the first non-Italian pope in 455 years; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II loved being among the people, spoke eight languages, was the most widely traveled pope in history, and was the first pope to visit the White House; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II was named Man of the Year in 1994 by Time Magazine; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II was a charismatic leader with a strong moral vision who charmed people around the world with his warmth, courage and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II inspired the people of the world and his passing leaves a void that is deeply felt by millions in the world community.

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 life of Pope John Paul II, a man of God and champion of the people, and recognizes the significant role Pope John Paul II played in the fall of communism and the advancement of human rights.

50-1-7225

SD

04/05/05