

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1115

By: McMullen

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution commemorating May 8, 2006, as the birthday of Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the United States, a political leader and orator; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on May 8, 1884, the man known for his Fair Deal, President Harry S. Truman, was born in Lamar, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, President Harry Truman went to France during World War I as a captain in the Field Artillery and upon his return married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace, and opened a haberdashery in the Kansas City area; and

WHEREAS, Truman once visited Seminole, Oklahoma, and evaluated the city for a possible location of one of his haberdasheries; and

WHEREAS, Truman was elected a judge of the Jackson County Court in 1922 and became a U.S. Senator in 1934; and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 1945, Harry S. Truman, succeeding to the office upon the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt, became the 33rd President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Truman was a folksy, unassuming president, and popularized phrases such as "The buck stops here" and "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen"; and

WHEREAS, President Truman's original "The buck stops here" desk sign was made at the U.S. Southwest Reformatory in El Reno, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the famous sign was designed by El Reno resident Buford Tressider, inscribed on the bottom with the words "El Reno", and given to President Truman on October 2, 1945; and

WHEREAS, President Truman won Oklahoma and the Presidential election of 1948 in one of the greatest political and electoral upsets of American history; and

WHEREAS, Truman's presidency was one of the most eventful in American history, seeing the end of World War II, the Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe, the beginning of the Cold War through his Truman Doctrine of battling communism, the desegregation of the U.S. Armed Forces, forbidding discrimination in federal employment, the second red scare, the creation of the CIA, and most of the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Truman made some of the world's most crucial decisions of all time when, as the war against Japan reached its final stage and an urgent plea to Japan to surrender was rejected, Truman ordered atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, forcing the Japanese surrender and saving hundreds of thousands of American lives; and

WHEREAS, President Truman's tough decisions led to him leaving office with the lowest approval ratings of any modern President; and

WHEREAS, President Truman's fight for the expansion of democracy and his legacy of civil rights lives on to this day; and

WHEREAS, historians and American citizens now widely regard President Harry S. Truman as one of the finest Presidents the United States has ever known.

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

THAT the House of Representatives hereby recognizes that May 8, 2006, is the anniversary of the birth of a great American, President Harry S. Truman, the 33rd President of the United States of America.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Truman Presidential Museum and Library in Independence, Missouri.

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