

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE  
RESOLUTION 1

By: Leftwich

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution praising and commending Carlos Rogers upon his selection as the 2004 Jim Thorpe Award winner; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Jim Thorpe award for the best defensive back in college football was created in 1986 and was immediately accepted as one of the nation's top collegiate sports honors. Winners are judged on their performance on the field, athletic ability, and character. A Jim Thorpe Association screening committee composed of former players, coaches, journalists, and representatives of major conferences determines the winner. Although the winner was announced during the broadcast of ESPN's College Football Awards Show in Orlando, Florida, the official presentation of the award will take place on February 8, 2005, at a formal banquet at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Auburn University cornerback Carlos Rogers, is the recipient of the 2004 Jim Thorpe Award. At the College Football Awards Show, Rogers, the nineteenth Jim Thorpe Award recipient, was unofficially presented the award by Baylor University's Thomas Everett, who was the first Jim Thorpe Award recipient in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Rogers was born on July 2, 1981, the son of Linda and David Rogers. As a junior at Butler High School he ran for 1,224 yards and scored 11 touchdowns. As a senior in high school, Carlos Rogers played both offense and defense, rushing for

1,332 yards, making 11 touchdowns, 47 tackles, and two interceptions; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Rogers' dream came true when he went to Auburn University, a personal goal he pursued since the ninth grade. In 2001 at Auburn he made 58 tackles and broke up 12 passes. In 2002 Carlos Rogers made 48 tackles, two of them for losses, broke up nine passes, and made four interceptions. In 2003 the Auburn University defensive back made 29 tackles, one of them for a loss, broke up nine passes, and made one interception; and

WHEREAS, at the start of the 2004 college football season Carlos Rogers was selected as one of 29 players named to the Jim Thorpe Award preseason watch list. Players are named to the watch list based on All-American team and Honorable Mention selections in at least six preseason magazines. At that point Carlos Rogers had five interceptions and 30 pass deflections. He was named a 2004 preseason second-team, All-Southeastern Conference (SEC) Selection by Athlon Sports and was a first-team preseason All-SEC Selection by the "Birmingham News"; and

WHEREAS, during the 2004 college football season Carlos Rogers had only 18 passes completed against him, totaled 41 tackles, five of them for a loss, broke up ten passes, and made two interceptions, one of which he ran back for a touchdown. He was selected for the Walter Camp Football Foundation All-American team, as well as winning the Jim Thorpe Award; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Rogers was the fulcrum of an Auburn defense that has grown into one of the most dominant in the nation with only 11.2 points allowed per game. Returning for his final season, he played a major role in Auburn taking the Southeastern Conference Championship. Carlos Rogers was a key player in Auburn's first ever 13-win season, ranking Auburn University second in the nation in both the Associated Press Top 25 and ESPN/USA Today Coaches' poll after Auburn's win in the Sugar Bowl on January 3, 2005. The Tigers

defeated four Associated Press Top Ten teams while completing their perfect record.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises Carlos Rogers for his return to school to complete his senior year and continue competition at the collegiate level.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Carlos Rogers upon his selection as the winner of the 2004 Jim Thorpe Award.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Carlos Rogers, Auburn University, and the Jim Thorpe Association.

50-1-1341

THC

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