

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Extraordinary Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 1X

By: Cain

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution commending the career of Roy Keen;
offering condolences; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Roy R. Keen was born on December 8, 1935, in Adair County, Oklahoma, the son of Thomas Stewart and Lomis Eady (Cone) Keen. Roy began his career as a public servant on July 21, 1958, as a social worker for the Department of Public Welfare in the basement of the Adair County courthouse. This was the beginning of his 47-year career with the Department of Human Services. In 1968 he joined the Department's unit on aging; and

WHEREAS, Roy Keen worked in the field of aging for 37 years. He established area agencies on aging in Oklahoma and developed and administered the Congregate and Home Delivered Meal Program, as well as home- and community-based services for the elderly through the Medicaid Waiver Program and the new Family Caregiver Program; and

WHEREAS, Roy Keen served as Director of the Aging Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, holding that position longer than any state director of aging services in the nation. He was State Coordinator of the 1981 White House Conference on Aging and chaired the State White House Conference and the Oklahoma Delegation to the 1981 and 1995 National White House Conference on Aging. He served as Treasurer of the National Association of State Units on Aging, chaired their Finance Committee, and was a member of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Roy Keen received recognition from the Tulsa Coalition for Older People, the Oklahoma Respite Resource Network, and the

Oklahoma Business and Aging Leadership Coalition. He recently received the Oklahoma Department of Human Services Director's Lifetime Achievement Award and was selected to receive the 2005 Louise B. Gerrard Award for Outstanding Contributions to Rural Older Americans. Roy was also the recipient of the Minority Task Force Award, the 1990 Community Achievement Award, and the Southwest Society on Aging AAA Award; and

WHEREAS, Roy R. Keen died on Wednesday, June 15, 2005, at his home in Del City, Oklahoma. He is remembered for his passion to protect the elderly, as someone who didn't take vacations, and who, had he not been disabled by illness, would have worked until the day he died. Roy Keen was the resource person for the elderly in Oklahoma and was recognized nationally as a leader in the field.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of senior citizens throughout the state commends the public career of the late Roy R. Keen and praises his efforts to better the life of all of Oklahoma's senior citizens.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate offers its most sincere sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the late Roy R. Keen and joins them in mourning the loss of this compassionate leader and public servant.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Roy R. Keen's wife, Reba; sister, Joy May Keen; son, Mike; and daughters, Kari Isaacs, Susan Blakely, and Toni Keen; the Aging Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services; and the State Council on Aging.