

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 56

By: Morgan, Coffee, Anderson,
Adelson, Aldridge,
Ballenger, Barrington,
Bass, Bingman, Branan,
Brogdon, Brown, Burrage,
Coates, Corn, Crain,
Crutchfield, Easley, Eason
McIntyre, Ford, Garrison,
Gumm, Ivester, Johnson
(Constance), Johnson
(Mike), Jolley, Justice,
Lamb, Laster, Laughlin,
Leftwich, Lerblance,
Mazzei, Myers, Nichols,
Paddack, Rabon, Reynolds,
Rice, Riley, Schulz,
Sparks, Sweeden, Sykes,
Wilcoxson, Williamson,
Wilson and Wyrick of the
Senate

and

Benge of the House

17 A Concurrent Resolution commending the life and
18 accomplishments of Richard L. Huddleston and
19 expressing condolences to his family; and directing
20 distribution.

21 WHEREAS, Richard L. Huddleston was born in Oklahoma City
22 February 22, 1936, and was a lifelong proud citizen of the State of
23 Oklahoma until his death on February 28, 2008. Following his active
24 duty service in the U.S. Air Force from 1953 to 1957, he was hired

1 for a three-week temporary job in the mailroom of the Oklahoma House
2 of Representatives which was the beginning of a distinguished career
3 spanning more than a quarter of a century and culminating in his
4 appointment as the Chief Clerk-Administrator, the highest non-
5 elective position in the House of Representatives; and

6 WHEREAS, during his career with the House of Representatives,
7 Richard L. Huddleston served six Speakers of the House, including
8 former Speakers Bill Harkey, who hired him; J.D. McCarty, his
9 mentor; and Dan Draper, who became his dear friend, in addition to
10 more than six hundred House Members; and

11 WHEREAS, Richard L. Huddleston gave his advice and counsel to
12 House leaders and rank and file alike, all of whom remember him as
13 an expert on legislative rules and procedures who insisted on
14 adherence to the rules of lawmaking, both written and unwritten, for
15 the benefit of the institution because he fervently believed bending
16 the rules for political expedience weakened the strength of the body
17 to which the members had been elected; and

18 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Richard L. Huddleston's leadership
19 guided the House of Representatives into the modern era, including
20 such reforms as the first election of the House Speaker by the
21 members of that body rather than by appointment of the Governor, the
22 first reapportionment of legislative districts, the end of the
23 regular practice of using the Committee of the Whole and the end of
24

1 the annual practice of covering the House clock to extend the
2 session beyond the time set for sine die adjournment; and

3 WHEREAS, as the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of
4 Representatives, Richard L. Huddleston was responsible for designing
5 the structure of the independent House staff and the hiring of the
6 employees for that first staff, and he was personally responsible
7 for encouraging and fostering the careers of many successful House
8 employees who later became leaders in their professions, in
9 politics, in public administration, in higher education and in
10 private business; and

11 WHEREAS, the mutual admiration, respect and deep friendships
12 Richard L. Huddleston developed with members of the House of
13 Representatives were a great asset to him when, following his
14 retirement from the House of Representatives in 1983, he began his
15 second successful career by founding the independent-contract
16 lobbying firm of Huddleston Investments, Inc.; and in this capacity
17 his long experience on the marble halls of his beloved State Capitol
18 was extended to include the members of the Oklahoma State Senate and
19 his dear friends and colleagues with whom he worked for nearly
20 another quarter of a century until his retirement in 2007; and

21 WHEREAS, while his family remembers with pride his many personal
22 and professional accomplishments, Richard L. Huddleston was most
23 proud of his three sons, Steven, Gary and Dale, and his five
24 grandchildren, Alisha, Meghan, Justis, Zach and Ashlee; and they

1 will remember that, next to his devotion to his family, his country
2 and his great pride in Oklahoma's rich heritage, Richard L.
3 Huddleston held most dear the sanctity of our participant democracy
4 and dedicated his entire professional life to preserving the
5 integrity of the legislative process.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
7 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
8 CONCURRING THEREIN:

9 THAT the current members of the Oklahoma State Legislature, on
10 behalf of all former Representatives, Senators and Governors who
11 served during his long tenure, commend the full life and many
12 accomplishments of their loyal friend, Richard L. Huddleston, and
13 extend their condolences to his family.

14 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife,
15 Margaret R. Huddleston, his sons, Steven Lewis Huddleston, Robert
16 Gary Huddleston and Richard Dale Huddleston, and his grandchildren,
17 Alisha Dale, Meghan Rose, Richard Justis, Zachary Dale and Ashlee
18 Nicole Huddleston.

19
20
21
22
23
24

