

ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
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, Paddock,
Rabon, Reynolds, Rice, Riley,
Schulz, Sparks, Sweeden, Sykes,
Wilcoxson, Williamson, Wilson and
Wyrick of the Senate

and

Benge, Adkins, Armes, Auffet, Banz,
BigHorse, Billy, Blackwell,
Braddock, Brannon, Brown, Cannaday,
Carey, Cargill, Collins, Coody,
Cooksey, Covey, Cox, Dank, Denney,
Derby, DeWitt, Dorman, Duncan,
Ellis, Enns, Faught, Gilbert, Glenn,
Hamilton, Harrison, Hickman,
Hilliard, Hoskin, Hyman, Ingmire,
Inman, Jackson, Jett, Johnson
(Dennis), Johnson (Rob), Jones,
Jordan, Joyner, Kern, Key, Kiesel,
Lamons, Liebmann, Lindley, Luttrell,
Martin (Scott), Martin (Steve),
McAffrey, McCarter, McCullough,
McDaniel (Jeannie), McDaniel
(Randy), McMullen, McNiel, McPeak,
Miller, Morgan, Morrissette,
Murphey, Nations, Peters, Peterson
(Pam), Peterson (Ron), Piatt,
Pittman, Proctor, Pruett, Renegar,
Reynolds, Richardson, Roan,
Rousselot, Schwartz, Sears, Shannon,

Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Shumate,
Smithson, Steele, Sullivan, Terrill,
Thompson, Thomsen, Tibbs,
Trebilcock, Turner, Walker, Watson,
Wesselhoft, Winchester, Worthen and
Wright of the House

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

WHEREAS, Richard L. Huddleston was born in Oklahoma City
February 22, 1936, and was a lifelong proud citizen of the State of
Oklahoma until his death on February 28, 2008. Following his active
duty service in the U.S. Air Force from 1953 to 1957, he was hired
for a three-week temporary job in the mailroom of the Oklahoma House
of Representatives which was the beginning of a distinguished career
spanning more than a quarter of a century and culminating in his
appointment as the Chief Clerk-Administrator, the highest non-
elective position in the House of Representatives; and

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

WHEREAS, Richard L. Huddleston gave his advice and counsel to
House leaders and rank and file alike, all of whom remember him as
an expert on legislative rules and procedures who insisted on
adherence to the rules of lawmaking, both written and unwritten, for
the benefit of the institution because he fervently believed bending

the rules for political expedience weakened the strength of the body to which the members had been elected; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Richard L. Huddleston's leadership guided the House of Representatives into the modern era, including such reforms as the first election of the House Speaker by the members of that body rather than by appointment of the Governor, the first reapportionment of legislative districts, the end of the regular practice of using the Committee of the Whole and the end of the annual practice of covering the House clock to extend the session beyond the time set for sine die adjournment; and

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

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

WHEREAS, while his family remembers with pride his many personal and professional accomplishments, Richard L. Huddleston was most proud of his three sons, Steven, Gary and Dale, and his five grandchildren, Alisha, Meghan, Justis, Zach and Ashlee; and they will remember that, next to his devotion to his family, his country and his great pride in Oklahoma's rich heritage, Richard L. Huddleston held most dear the sanctity of our participant democracy and dedicated his entire professional life to preserving the integrity of the legislative process.

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

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

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

Adopted by the Senate the 4th day of March, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 5th day of March, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives