

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 100

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

A Resolution recognizing Hoyt Axton as a native  
Oklahoman; commending his career in entertainment;  
and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Hoyt Wayne Axton was born March 25, 1938, in Duncan,  
Oklahoma, the son of English teacher Mae Boren Axton, who wrote  
"Heartbreak Hotel" and high school coach John T. Axton. (The  
Oklahoma State Senate honored Mae Boren Axton in 1997 with Senate  
Resolution Number 36.) Hoyt Axton, who grew up in Comanche,  
Oklahoma, studied classical piano before switching to the guitar;  
and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton sought a career in athletics and attended Oklahoma State University (OSU) on a football scholarship. He left OSU to join the U.S. Navy where he served aboard the USS Princeton (LPH-5). After his service in the Navy, Hoyt sang folk songs in San Francisco night clubs and at the Hollywood nightclub, the Troubadour, and the Golden Bear in Huntington Beach, California. He released his first album "The Balladeer" in the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton is most famous for the hit songs he wrote which were performed by others. These include: Greenback Dollar (Kingston Trio), Joy to the World (Three Dog Night), Lightning Bar Blues (Brownsville Station), Never Been to Spain (Three Dog Night), The No-No Song (Ringo Star), The Pusher (Steppenwolf), Snowblind Friend (Steppenwolf), and Sweet Misery (John Denver); and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton also performed his own works including: Boney Fingers, Della and the Dealer, The Morning Is Here, Officer Ray, and When the Morning Comes (a duet with Linda Rondstadt); and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton was also an actor making guest appearances on numerous television programs including: The Bionic Woman; Bonanza; Dallas: The Early Years; Domestic Life; Dukes of Hazard; Diff'rent Strokes; Growing Pains; Faerie Tale Theatre; Murder, She Wrote; the Rousters; and WKRP in Cincinnati. He also appeared on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson; and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton composed and sang the theme song to the TV program "Flo". He also composed and sang in commercials including "Head for the Mountains" for Busch beer and "The Ballad of Big Mac" for McDonalds; and

WHEREAS, Hoyt Axton also acted in numerous movies, the most well-known being: The Black Stallion, Disorganized Crime, Endangered Species, Gremlins, Heart Like a Wheel, King Cobra, and We're No Angels. His music was also used in movie sound tracks in such well-known movies as: The Big Chill, Easy Rider, Forrest Gump, and The Pusher; and

WHEREAS, actor, singer, songwriter Hoyt Axton, who was equally at home with country, folk, and pop music, died of a heart attack at the age of 61 years on October 26, 1999, in Montana. His hit song

"Never Been to Spain" contains the lyrics, "Well, I've never been to heaven, but I've been to Oklahoma."

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes Hoyt Axton as a native Oklahoman whose roots were always present in his artistic endeavors.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Hoyt Axton's career in entertainment and his abundant talents which reflect favorably upon his home state of Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Inc., in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Country/Western Museum Music Hall of Fame in Del City, Oklahoma.

Adopted by the Senate the 22nd day of May, 2008.

---

Presiding Officer of the Senate