

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 69

By: Morgan, Coffee, Adelson,
Aldridge, Anderson,
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

A Resolution congratulating the Baptist Village Retirement Communities of Oklahoma for 50 years of operating retirement villages; commending BVRC for their ministry of caring for senior adults; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in the early 1950s the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma (BGCO) began researching the need for providing housing and health care to older adults. By 1955 they had budgeted funds and were preparing to launch a new ministry. While many cities vied for the location of the first site, Hugo, Oklahoma, prevailed through the sacrifice of Will and Nora Baskett who donated the land, tore up their feather bed to make pillows, gave 150 hens and all their S&H

green stamps for the first utility carts and made a personal loan. In 1957 construction was under way on the Hugo Golden Age Home, now Baptist Village of Hugo, which welcomed its first residents in 1958; and

WHEREAS, in February 1965, Baptist Village of Oklahoma City, T. B. Lackey Manor Nursing Center, was opened. The 1970s witnessed the founding of the Baptist Village of Owasso, Oklahoma. By the 1980s Baptist Village of Oklahoma City was the largest continuing-care retirement community in the state with just over 410 residents; and construction of four smaller villages in Ada, Cleveland, Madill, and Okmulgee was under way; and

WHEREAS, in the 1990s the Baptist Retirement Centers of Oklahoma, Inc., (BRCO) was formed, along with Baptist Home Care (BHC) and Durable Medical Equipment (DME). Also in that decade, Baptist Village of Oklahoma City was the first-ever continuum-of-care community licensed by the Oklahoma Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 the name was changed to Baptist Village Retirement Communities (BVRC). A new Baptist Village of Broken Arrow was also formed. BVRC launched a new program called Loving, Inspiring, Nurturing, Caring (LINC), designed to link local Southern Baptist churches and retirement communities or nursing centers for the purpose of ministry; and

WHEREAS, at the end of 2007, as they approached their fiftieth year, BVRC employed over 750 and was ministering to over 2,000 people every day with the mission to "Honor God by providing quality living and compassionate health care in a Christian environment".

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Baptist Village Retirement Communities upon the occasion of their fiftieth year of operation.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Baptist Village Retirement Communities for their ministry of caring for senior adults.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Bill Pierce,
President, Baptist Village Retirement Communities.

Adopted by the Senate the 3rd day of April, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the Senate