

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE

4 RESOLUTION 1060

By: Sears

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A House Resolution commending the life of Jim Connor;
8 offering condolences; and directing distribution.
9

10
11 WHEREAS, James William ("Jim") Connor was born on August 21,
12 1932, in Seminole, Oklahoma, the son of William Michael and Gertrude
13 (Smith) Connor. The Connor family moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1938,
14 where Jim received his primary education. In 1950, he graduated
15 from Marquette High School, lettering in both football and
16 basketball, and in 1954 graduated from St. Benedict's College in
17 Atchinson, Kansas, with a degree in business administration. Connor
18 then entered the United States Army, serving with the 9th Infantry
19 Division during the Allied occupation of Germany. Upon his
20 honorable discharge, he enrolled in the University of Oklahoma
21 College of Law, where he graduated with honors in 1959; and

22 WHEREAS, Connor married Louise Allen Rucker of Bartlesville on
23 February 27, 1960. They have been blessed with four children and
24 eleven grandchildren; and

1 WHEREAS, upon graduation from law school, Connor accepted a
2 position as assistant county attorney in Bartlesville. He was
3 elected county attorney for the 1961-1962 term of office. During
4 his years of service with the county attorney's office, Connor never
5 lost a criminal prosecution. After leaving the county attorney's
6 office, he then began his private practice of law with Charles W.
7 Selby where he continued practicing, under the firm now known as
8 Selby, Connor, Maddux and Janer, until the time of his death; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1962, Connor was elected to the Oklahoma House of
10 Representatives, where he served as the State Representative from
11 District 10 for a period of eight years. During that time, the
12 Capital Press Corps selected Connor each session as one of the ten
13 outstanding legislators who made meaningful contributions to the
14 operation of state government. Connor also served as Minority Floor
15 Leader for Governors Henry Bellmon and Dewey F. Bartlett; and

16 WHEREAS, after leaving the Legislature, Connor returned to the
17 private practice of law in Bartlesville, and also served as
18 Bartlesville City Attorney in 1974 and 1975; and

19 WHEREAS, Connor was a member of the American Bar Association,
20 the Oklahoma Bar Association, and the Washington County Bar
21 Association; the Bartlesville Jaycees, receiving the Distinguished
22 Man of the Year Award in 1967; the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce;
23 the Daybreak Rotary Club; and the Hillcrest Country Club, serving as
24 President in 1977. He was President of the Bartlesville Junior

1 Baseball Association, and also coached and managed little league
2 teams. He was also a long-time member of St. John Catholic Church,
3 where he served on the finance committee; and

4 WHEREAS, Connor, along with law partner Charles W. Selby, was
5 instrumental in founding the E.H. "Ted" and Melody Lyon Foundation
6 in 1978, which as of today has disbursed over eighteen million
7 dollars for worthwhile projects to the Bartlesville area; and

8 WHEREAS, this outstanding Oklahoman died March 24, 2008, at the
9 age of 75 years.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

12 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby commends the
13 full life and many accomplishments of the late Jim Connor.

14 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives offers its most
15 sincere condolences to the Connor family, all those who benefited
16 from his many contributions, and the entire Bartlesville community.

17 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Jim Connor's
18 wife, Louise; and to their children: James W. Connor, Jr., Laura
19 Connor Blight, Patrick M. Connor, M.D., and Andrew A. Connor.

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21 51-2-10744 AM 03/27/08

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