

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 22

By: Wilson of the Senate

5 and

6 Brown of the House

7
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution praising the patriotism of
10 Sergeant William J. Beardsley; mourning his loss; and
11 directing distribution.

12
13 WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant William J. "B.J."
14 Beardsley, 25 years old, was killed in Iraq on Monday, February 26,
15 2007, by an improvised explosive device while on patrol in an
16 unarmored Humvee. He was killed while traveling in a military
17 convoy near Diwaniyah, Iraq, south of Baghdad; and

18 WHEREAS, Sergeant Beardsley was a member of the 260th
19 Quartermaster Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Troop Brigade of the 3rd
20 Infantry Division based in Fort Stewart, Georgia. He was eight
21 months into his first tour of duty in Iraq and was due back home on
22 leave in April. He would have celebrated his 26th birthday in May;
23 and

1 WHEREAS, William "B.J." Beardsley, a native of Muskogee,
2 Oklahoma, moved away from the state with his family when he was five
3 years old and spent most of his youth traveling with his family to
4 various military installations. He served three years in the Wayne
5 County High School Air Force ROTC while living in Georgia. At age
6 16, B.J. Beardsley returned to Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he
7 finished high school; and

8 WHEREAS, B.J. Beardsley enjoyed weightlifting, softball,
9 baseball, golf, hunting, riding motorcycles, and all motor sports.
10 A family man known for being quiet, polite, and respectful, B.J. was
11 a devoted father who loved his children and his country. He was
12 also known for his sense of humor and quick wit; and

13 WHEREAS, Sergeant Beardsley joined the United States Army right
14 after high school and served for 39 months, stationed in South Korea
15 for much of that time. After a brief period as a civilian, he
16 reenlisted, knowing he would be deployed to Iraq; and

17 WHEREAS, Sergeant Beardsley was recognized with a posthumous
18 promotion, Purple Heart, and Bronze Star.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
20 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
21 CONCURRING THEREIN:

22 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature praises the patriotism of
23 Staff Sergeant William J. Beardsley.

24

1 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature joins the family of Staff
2 Sergeant Beardsley in mourning the loss of this heroic soldier.

3 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Staff Sergeant
4 Beardsley's mother, Lavonna Harper; aunt, Charlote Guinn; and
5 sister, Amber Graw.

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