

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 35

By: Easley and Morgan of the
Senate

5 and

6 Rousselot of the House

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8
9 AS INTRODUCED

10 A Concurrent Resolution honoring Bill Secrest;
11 designating May 8, 2007, "Bill Secrest Day" at the
Oklahoma State Capitol; and directing distribution.

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14 WHEREAS, William E. Secrest, Jr., a native of Coweta in Wagoner
15 County, Oklahoma, grew up on a farm in the Verdigris River area and
16 graduated from Coweta High School. He graduated from college at
17 what was then known as Oklahoma A&M and began working for the Tulsa
18 Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Department and as Administrative
19 Assistant to the General Manager of the Tulsa State Fair; and

20 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest served as City Clerk, Planning
21 Commissioner, City Councilman, Mayor, and City Manager of Coweta,
22 Oklahoma, before moving to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, where he became
23 City Clerk-Treasurer and City Manager. He played a key role in
24 developing both the Verdigris and Arkansas River Water Treatment

1 Plants. The Verdigris Water Treatment Plant was named the "Bill
2 Secrest Water Treatment Facility". He was also the Wagoner County
3 Civil Defense Director for five years and served with the Broken
4 Arrow Chamber of Commerce for twelve years; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest is a longtime member of the Oklahoma Rural
6 Water Association and in 1980 was elected to its Board of Directors.
7 He was elected Vice President in 1994 and President in 2002, serving
8 to the present. Bill was honored as Oklahoma Rural Water
9 Association Man of the Year in 1994 and Manager of the Year in 1996;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Bill was elected to the National Rural Water
12 Association Board of Directors in 1991 where he served for ten
13 years. In 2001 the National Rural Water Association Board honored
14 him with the Dell Cornell Award. Bill Secrest was named to the
15 Rural Water Hall of Fame in 1997; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest founded the Wagoner County Rural Water
17 District No. 5 and managed the Wagoner County Rural Water District
18 No. 4 for twenty years until his retirement in 1997; and

19 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest was an incorporator and Board Member of
20 the Oklahoma Rural Water Association Assurance Group, a risk
21 management pool that provides property and casualty coverage for
22 rural water systems. He is currently serving as its Vice Chair; and

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1 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest was also an incorporator and President of
2 the Oklahoma Rural Water Enrichment Foundation which gives about
3 twenty scholastic scholarships each year to rural students; and

4 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest was honored in 1998 as an Oklahoma Water
5 Pioneer for his contributions to the planning, development,
6 management, and conservation of the state's water resources; and

7 WHEREAS, Bill Secrest was appointed in 1983 to the Oklahoma
8 Water Resources Board, representing rural water interests, and
9 served as its Vice Chair from 1986 to 1997. He is now senior member
10 of the Board, and his current term expires in May 2007. Bill
11 Secrest has not sought reappointment and will be retiring from the
12 Board after 24 years of dedicated service.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
14 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15 CONCURRING THEREIN:

16 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature honors the public career of
17 Bill Secrest and thanks him for his long and dedicated service to
18 the people of Oklahoma.

19 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature designates May 8, 2007,
20 "Bill Secrest Day" at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

21 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Bill Secrest
22 and the Chair of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

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