

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 54

By: Eason McIntyre of the  
Senate

5 and

6 Shelton of the House

7  
8  
9 AS INTRODUCED

10 A Concurrent Resolution praising the life of Marques  
11 Haynes; designating February 27, 2008, "Marques  
12 Haynes Appreciation Day" in the State of Oklahoma;  
13 and directing distribution.

14 WHEREAS, Marques Oreole Haynes was born on October 3, 1926, in  
15 Sand Springs, Oklahoma, the youngest son of Matthew and Hattie  
16 Haynes. All four of the Haynes children played basketball. Marques  
17 learned to shoot from his sister Cecile, and his brothers Wendell  
18 and Joe taught him to dribble; and

19 WHEREAS, Marques Haynes played basketball at Booker T.  
20 Washington High School. In 1942 he led the team to a national  
21 championship and was picked as a Second Team Scholastic All-  
22 American. He also led the team to two state championships. Marques  
23 Haynes, like his siblings, attended Langston University where he  
24 played basketball and was a four-time All-State, All-Conference and

1 team Most Valuable Player selection. His team won 112 games,  
2 including a 59-game winning streak, and lost only three. In one  
3 exhibition game played in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the Langston  
4 Lions upset the visiting Harlem Globetrotters. The Globetrotters  
5 immediately offered Haynes a professional contract, but he turned it  
6 down in order to finish his college education. He received a  
7 bachelor degree in industrial education in 1946; and

8 WHEREAS, the 6-foot-tall, 160-pound Marques Haynes began his  
9 professional basketball career with the Kansas City Stars; played  
10 with the Harlem Globetrotters; founded, owned, booked, coached, and  
11 played with his own team, the Fabulous Magicians; played and coached  
12 with the Harlem Globetrotters again where he became president of the  
13 players' union; played on Meadowlark Lemon's Bucketeers; played for  
14 the Harlem Wizards; then again began and played for his own team,  
15 the Harlem Magicians. He retired from the game after a 46-year  
16 career in professional basketball. Known as the "World's Greatest  
17 Dribbler", he played in over 12,000 professional basketball games  
18 and scored more than 250,000 points. Haynes traveled more than four  
19 million miles and appeared in all 50 states, approximately 100  
20 countries, and on six continents; and

21 WHEREAS, on February 19, 1948, at Chicago Stadium, the Harlem  
22 Globetrotters, led by Marques Haynes, defeated the George Mikan-led  
23 Minnesota Lakers (61-59). As recorded in the 2005 documentary  
24 movie, "The Harlem Globetrotters: The Team That Changed the World",

1 it was the game that not only resulted in the eventual integration  
2 of professional basketball but also spurred integration in all  
3 American professional sports. In 1953 he was offered an enormous  
4 contract by the Philadelphia Warriors, and two years later the  
5 Minnesota Lakers made a similar offer. Haynes turned both down; and

6 WHEREAS, Marques Haynes has been inducted into many Halls of  
7 Fame, including the Langston University Athletic Hall of Fame, the  
8 NAIA Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, the East  
9 Hartford Hall of Fame, and the Jim Thorpe Hall of Fame. He was the  
10 first Globetrotter to enter the Basketball Hall of Fame and New York  
11 All Sports Hall of Fame. Senate Concurrent Resolution 48 passed in  
12 1994 designated a 12-mile section of Oklahoma Highway 97 between  
13 Sand Springs and Sapulpa the "Marques Haynes Highway".

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
15 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 CONCURRING THEREIN:

17 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature praises Marques Haynes as a  
18 great Oklahoman, celebrates his many achievements throughout his  
19 career, and recognizes him as one of the world's greatest basketball  
20 players.

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature designates Wednesday,  
22 February 27, 2008, "Marques Haynes Appreciation Day" in the State of  
23 Oklahoma.

1        THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Oklahoma great,  
2 Marques Haynes.

3

4        51-2-3638        THC        2/25/2008 3:02:07 PM

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24