

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 17

By: Newberry, Adelson,  
Aldridge, Anderson,  
Ballenger, Barrington,  
Bass, Bingman, Branan,  
Brogdon, Brown, Burrage,  
Coates, Coffee, Corn,  
Crain, Crutchfield, Easley,  
Eason McIntyre, Ellis,  
Ford, Garrison, Gumm,  
Halligan, Ivester, Johnson  
(Constance), Johnson  
(Mike), Jolley, Justice,  
Lamb, Laster, Leftwich,  
Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei,  
Myers, Nichols, Paddack,  
Reynolds, Rice, Russell,  
Schulz, Sparks,  
Stanislawski, Sweeden,  
Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution praising the life and career of Paul  
Harvey; mourning his loss; and directing  
distribution.

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey Aurandt was born on September 4, 1918, in  
Tulsa, Oklahoma, the son of Harry Harrison Aurandt and Anna Dagmar  
Christensen. His father, a police officer, was killed in the line  
of duty by four robbers when Paul was three years old, leaving his  
mother to bring up Paul and his sister Frances Henrietta. As a  
youth Paul used to listen to early radio on a homemade cigar-box  
crystal set; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey first went on the radio in 1933 while in high school in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A high school English teacher believed he had a talent for radio and encouraged Paul, who was a champion orator. Paul went to work for KVOO-AM 1170 radio, playing the guitar, reading commercials, announcements, and occasionally the news. Still working for the radio station, he took English and speech classes at the University of Tulsa. For professional reasons he changed his last name to "Harvey"; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey moved on to radio stations in Abilene, Kansas, and at KOMA-AM 1520 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He eventually moved on as news and special events director at a radio station in St. Louis, Missouri, which is where he wooed and won his wife, Lynne "Angel" Cooper; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey served as the Office of War Information's news director for Michigan and Indiana in the early 1940s. He also served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Paul received a medical discharge after an injury on an obstacle course; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey News and Comment was first broadcast nationally in 1951 on ABC radio. At the time he was a newscaster at WENR-AM in Chicago, Illinois. Paul worked in Chicago's Merchandise Mart and became friends with the building's owner, Joseph P. Kennedy. Kennedy, the father of Joe, Jr., John F., Robert F., and Teddy Kennedy, played a major role in winning Harvey a spot on ABC radio. At first, Paul was a substitute until local stations began requesting him. Later Paul Harvey appeared on television from the 1960s through the 1980s with five-minute segments; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey began his "The Rest of the Story" in 1976. The feature was written by his son, Paul Harvey, Jr. His son also wrote "Paul Harvey's For What It's Worth", "Paul Harvey's The Rest of the Story", "More of Paul Harvey's The Rest of the Story", and "Destiny: From Paul Harvey's the Rest of the Story"; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey invented or popularized the words "skyjacker", "Reaganomics", "trendency", "snoopervision", and "guesstimate". At the peak of his career Harvey had 24 million listeners on more than 1,200 national radio stations and on 400 more Armed Forces radio stations around the world. He was a popular

public speaker, and his three-times-a-week syndicated column was carried by approximately 300 newspapers; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey was known as the "voice of Middle America" and the "apostle of Main Street". He described his beliefs as "political fundamentalism". Paul Harvey refused offers to move to the East Coast, preferring to stay in touch with Middle America from his home in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 1990; he received the Presidential Medal Of Freedom in 2005; and he received an honorary degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, in 2007. Paul Harvey has been named Salesman of the Year, Commentator of the Year, Person of the Year, Father of the Year, and American of the Year. He was elected to the National Association of Broadcasters Radio Hall of Fame, the DeMolay Hall of Fame, and the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. He received eleven Freedom Foundations Awards, the Horatio Alger Award, and in 1987 was inducted into the Oklahoma Association of Broadcaster's Hall of Fame. Paul Harvey also received the Oklahoma State University Henry G. Bennett Distinguished Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey caught a virus that weakened his vocal cords and temporarily forced him off the air in 2001. He returned to broadcasting, but his wife of nearly 68 years, Lynne "Angel" Cooper Harvey, died in May 2008. Paul joined her forever on February 28, 2009. The 90-year-old broadcaster was with family at a Phoenix, Arizona, hospital at the time of his death.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the life and career of native Oklahoman Paul Harvey.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate joins the state, nation, and world in mourning the loss of this outstanding communicator whom Oklahoma is proud to claim as one of its own.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Paul Harvey, Jr. and the Oklahoma Heritage Association.

Adopted by the Senate the 2nd day of March, 2009.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate