

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 41

By: Coates, Barrington, Bass, Adelson,
Aldridge, Anderson, Ballenger,
Bingman, Branan, Brogdon, Brown,
Burrage, 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, Newberry, Nichols,
Paddack, Reynolds, Rice, Russell,
Schulz, Sparks, Stanislawski,
Sweeden, Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution commending Colonel William J. Finley for his humanitarian efforts to aid the families of deployed soldiers and needy children and families in Iraq; thanking him for an opportunity for the Oklahoma State Senate to participate; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Colonel William J. Finley was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army in Field Artillery in May 1982. From May 1982 through February 2007, he held a variety of artillery positions. His most recent position was Advisor to the 2nd Iraqi Army Brigade/3rd Iraqi Army Division in Tal' A Far, Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Finley has a Bachelor of Science in History from Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania and a Master of Arts in Human Resource Development from Webster University in Missouri. He graduated from the Field Artillery Officer's Basic and Advance

Courses, Airborne School, Ranger School, Jumpmaster School, and the Command and General Staff College; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Finley's awards and decorations consist of the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the United States Army Ranger Tab, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Combat Action Badge; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Colonel Finley along with a group of caring Oklahomans in coordination with the Armed Services YMCA in Lawton, Oklahoma, helped found "Operation: Blankets are OK!", a charity to provide blankets and other items to the children of deployed Fort Sill soldiers as well as needy children in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, his coordinating efforts in Iraq at Fort Sill, where he is currently serving as the Deputy G5 at the Fires Center of Excellence, along with his outreach efforts to Oklahoma communities and organizations, including the Oklahoma State Senate, has resulted in his team providing much needed supplies to the children of deployed soldiers and needy families in Iraq. His humanitarian efforts have provided aid and comfort in the form of medical clinics, food supplies, and clothing to needy families in Iraq.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Colonel William J. Finley for his humanitarian efforts to aid the families of deployed soldiers and needy children and families in Iraq.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate thanks Colonel William J. Finley for offering an opportunity to the Oklahoma State Senate to participate in assisting the families of deployed troops and aiding needy families in Iraq.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to United States Army Colonel William J. Finley.

Adopted by the Senate the 19th day of May, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the Senate