

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 SENATE

4 RESOLUTION 105

By: Eason McIntyre, Halligan  
and Johnson (Constance)

5  
6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution praising the public service of Currie  
9 Ballard; congratulating him upon his induction into  
10 the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame; and directing  
11 distribution.

12 WHEREAS, Currie D. Ballard was born on May 25, 1958, in Los  
13 Angeles, California. His ancestors were slaves of the Choctaw  
14 Indians in Oklahoma and he is the descendent of the two slaves,  
15 Wallace and Minerva Willis, who wrote the song "Swing Low, Sweet  
16 Chariot". Mr. Ballard grew up in the Watts area of Los Angeles,  
17 California, raised by his grandparents because both of his parents  
18 were in prison. He frequented the Southern Area Boys Club on 120th  
19 Street where he learned self-respect; and

20 WHEREAS, Currie Ballard has a Bachelor of Arts degree from  
21 Langston University. From 1993 to 2006, Currie Ballard was the  
22 Historian-in-Residence at Langston University. In 2009, he was  
23 appointed Assistant Secretary of the Oklahoma State Senate; and  
24

1       WHEREAS, Currie Ballard has been collecting African American  
2 artifacts and documents for more than thirty years. "The Ebony  
3 Chronicles" won him a Regional Emmy award for best historical  
4 documentary; and

5       WHEREAS, in 2002, Currie Ballard was appointed by President  
6 George W. Bush to a Presidential Commission to build an African  
7 American Museum in Washington, D.C. In 2005, he was appointed by  
8 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert to a  
9 Special Task Force to Study the History and Contributions of Slave  
10 Laborers in the Construction of the U.S. Capitol; and

11       WHEREAS, on April 30, 2010, Currie Ballard will be inducted into  
12 the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

13       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
14 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

15       THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the public service and  
16 many accomplishments of Assistant Secretary of the Oklahoma State  
17 Senate Currie Ballard.

18       THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Currie Ballard upon  
19 his induction into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

20       THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Currie D.  
21 Ballard and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

22

23       52-2-3656           THC           3/31/2010 8:47:44 AM

24