

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE

4 RESOLUTION 133

By: Johnson (Constance)

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution applauding, commending and
8 congratulating Russell M. Perry, founder, owner and
9 CEO of Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company in
10 Northeast Oklahoma City, on the occasion of the 30th
11 Anniversary of The Black Chronicle Newspaper; and
12 directing distribution.

13 WHEREAS, Russell M. Perry grew up on Oklahoma City's Eastside
14 looking forward to the day when he too would wear the proud title of
15 "Frederick A. Douglass High School Trojan". Russell M. Perry not
16 only wore the title with pride, he consummated the Douglass High
17 School legacy of excellence in achievement by single-handedly
18 leading the 1957 Trojan Football Team to the State Championship when
19 they defeated the Capitol Hill High School Redskins; and

20 WHEREAS, following high school, Russell M. Perry attended
21 college at Eastern Shore Maryland, then returned to Oklahoma City
22 where he resumed a love affair with the printed word that for him
23 began as a child delivering the Black Dispatch Newspaper, published
24 by the late Roscoe Dunjee, within his community; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1979, Russell M. Perry subsequently became the
2 founder, owner and publisher of The Black Chronicle Newspaper.
3 Thirty years later, the award-winning newspaper is Oklahoma's
4 longest published African American newspaper, and the largest paid-
5 weekly newspaper located in Northeast Oklahoma City, with annual
6 revenues exceeding One Million Dollars and approximately 30,000
7 copies in circulation, with subscribers in every state of the
8 continental United States; and

9 WHEREAS, the Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company is home
10 to sixteen AM and FM radio stations including three in Lawton and
11 Duncan, two in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, one in Anadarko, and five in
12 Augusta, Georgia. He also owns Perry Towers Corporation and boasts
13 the state's tallest broadcast tower; and

14 WHEREAS, Russell M. Perry further displayed fortitude and
15 perseverance to reach personal and professional goals through his
16 service as Oklahoma's first African American Secretary of Commerce,
17 as Secretary of Development and Special Affairs, and Special Adviser
18 for Economic Development. He also demonstrated exemplary service in
19 a number of municipal, county, state and federal capacities; and

20 WHEREAS, in recognition of his career and accomplishments in
21 broadcasting and journalism, Russell M. Perry was inducted into the
22 Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2009. He is a member of the
23 Oklahoma Press Association, National Newspaper Press Association,
24 and National Newspaper Association; and

1 WHEREAS, in an effort to right an apparent oversight that
2 occurred over 30 years ago when ceremonies acknowledging the Black
3 Dispatch Newspaper for its role in the community failed to mention
4 Russell M. Perry's role in the paper's success, this resolution is
5 offered to celebrate one man's determination and persistence to
6 ensure that everything that is done to promote this community is
7 inclusive, regardless of politics and personalities.

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

10 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate hereby applauds, commends and
11 congratulates Russell M. Perry on the occasion of the thirtieth
12 anniversary of The Black Chronicle Newspaper in Oklahoma City,
13 Oklahoma, and for his keen business acumen and leadership in
14 founding the Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company, a publishing
15 and broadcasting conglomerate in Northeast Oklahoma City whose
16 potential for fostering positive change in the community, state and
17 nation is unsurpassed.

18 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Russell M.
19 Perry.

20

21 52-2-3740 THC 5/20/2010 2:14:13 PM

22

23

24