

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE

4 RESOLUTION 19

By: Sweeden

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution endorsing the selection of Oklahoma as
8 site of the 2009 PRCA Clem McSpadden National Finals
9 Steer Roping Rodeo; urging the PRCA to schedule
Oklahoma as the official location for this event; and
directing distribution.

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12 WHEREAS, the first rodeo was held on July 4, 1869, when two
13 groups of cowboys from neighboring ranches in Colorado held a
14 contest to determine which group was better at performing ranching
15 tasks. In 1936 a group of cowboys formed the Cowboy's Turtle
16 Association. It was named "Turtles" because the cowboys, although
17 slow to organize, were willing to stick their necks out to get
18 ahead. In 1945 the Turtles renamed themselves the Rodeo Cowboys
19 Association (RCA) and in 1975 it became what is known today as the
20 Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA); and

21 WHEREAS, Oklahoma's own Clem McSpadden served as PRCA announcer
22 for ABC's "Wide World of Sports" from 1961 through 1965. Clem
23 McSpadden also served as President of the Rodeo Cowboys Association
24 from 1970 through 1971. Senator Clem McSpadden served in this

1 distinguished body from 1955-1972, holding the office of President
2 Pro Tempore for two terms. Clem McSpadden began a roping contest at
3 his Bushyhead Ranch from 1975 to 1983 when it became a Labor Day
4 pasture event; and

5 WHEREAS, the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum,
6 America's premier institution of Western history, art, and culture
7 is located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Its Rodeo Hall of Fame is a
8 tribute to rodeo's greatest legends. The American Rodeo Gallery
9 educates visitors from around the world on the history of the sport.
10 More than 10 million visitors have viewed this unique museum. The
11 National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum recognized Clem
12 McSpadden with the Chester A. Reynolds Memorial Award in 2007; and

13 WHEREAS, Oklahoma is also home to Tinker Air Force Base which
14 includes the 507th Air Refueling Wing (ARW), an Air Force Reserve
15 unit. Approximately 1,200 men and women reservists serve their
16 country as members of the 507th ARW or 513th Air Control Group. The
17 Air Force Reserve is an official sponsor of the Professional Rodeo
18 Cowboys Association; and

19 WHEREAS, Oklahoma, should it host the PRCA National Finals Steer
20 Roping Rodeo this fall (which could be renamed the PRCA Clem
21 McSpadden National Finals Steer Roping Rodeo), would welcome up to
22 10,000 visitors, many from out of state. This event would not only
23 add an enormous fiscal impact on the economy, but would also honor
24 Clem McSpadden, boost interest in the National Cowboy and Western

1 Heritage Museum, and recognize the Air Force Reserve as an official
2 PRCA sponsor.

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

5 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate endorses the selection of
6 Oklahoma as site of the 2009 PRCA Clem McSpadden National Finals
7 Steer Roping Rodeo.

8 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges the Professional Rodeo
9 Cowboys Association (PRCA) to schedule Oklahoma as the official
10 location for this year's event.

11 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to PRCA
12 Commissioner Karl Stressman and PRCA Director of Rodeo
13 Administration Aaron Enget; Bart McSpadden, son of Senator Clem
14 McSpadden; Chuck Schroeder at the National Cowboy and Western
15 Heritage Museum; and Colonel Jeffry R. Glass, Commander, 507th Air
16 Refueling Wing.

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