

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 31

By: Corn

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution praising the athletic prowess of Randy
8 Bass; celebrating the return of the KFC statue;
9 hoping the "Curse of the Colonel" is over; and
10 directing distribution.

11 WHEREAS, Randy Bass was a successful professional baseball
12 player. During the period from 1977 to 1982 he played for the
13 Minnesota Twins, the Texas Rangers, the Kansas City Royals, and the
14 Montreal Expos. In 1983 Randy Bass signed with the Hanshin Tigers
15 in Japan; and

16 WHEREAS, Randy Bass had the most successful career of any
17 American baseball player in Japan. Bass won four straight league
18 batting titles and two consecutive triple crowns (best batting
19 average, most home runs, and most runs-batted-in). It was Bass who
20 led the Hanshin Tigers to their first (and only) national
21 championship in 1985; and

22 WHEREAS, Hanshin Tiger baseball fans celebrated the victory in
23 what was the traditional manner in that area. As the crowd chanted
24 the name of a Hanshin Tiger player, a fan, who resembled that

1 professional player, would jump from a nearby bridge into the canal
2 below. Alas, no fan resembled the bearded foreigner, Randy Bass.
3 The fans improvised. They ripped a plastic statue of Colonel
4 Sanders (a bearded foreigner) from in front of a KFC outlet, and
5 tossed the statue of the Colonel off of the bridge into the canal;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, unlike the fans who resembled Hanshin Tiger players,
8 the statue of the Colonel remained in the canal. Suddenly the
9 Hanshin Tigers entered a decades-long losing streak. The legend
10 arose that the deceased Colonel Harland Sanders had placed a curse
11 upon the team for the mistreatment of his statue and that the curse
12 would continue until his statue was recovered. It was popularly
13 known as the "Curse of the Colonel"; and

14 WHEREAS, many attempts were made to recover the statue, but they
15 all ended in failure, as did the fortunes of the Hanshin Tigers.
16 Fans apologized to the local KFC manager but in vain. A new statue
17 of the Colonel in front of the KFC branch was bolted down to prevent
18 a reoccurrence of its predecessor's fate. In 2004 construction of a
19 new bridge was begun, one designed to hinder revelers should they
20 attempt to make a celebratory plunge; and

21 WHEREAS, earlier this year a construction crew discovered the
22 remains of the Colonel's statue. KFC is donating the statue to the
23 Hanshin Tigers for their ballpark.

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

3 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the athletic prowess of
4 then professional baseball player but now Senator Randy Bass.

5 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate celebrates the return of the KFC
6 statue that resembled Senator Bass to dry land.

7 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate expresses the hope that the
8 "Curse of the Colonel" is ended.

9 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Oklahoma State
10 Senator Randy Bass.

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