

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 54

By: Gumm

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution acknowledging the contributions of Leon
8 Sherrer; honoring his contributions; and directing
9 distribution.

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11 WHEREAS, Thomas Leon Sherrer was born on February 6, 1920, in
12 Snow, Oklahoma, the son of Robert and Delanie Sherrer. Leon grew up
13 on a small farm with his seven brothers and three sisters. Until
14 the eighth grade Leon attended a one room school with only one
15 teacher – his older brother. Leon then attended Antlers High School
16 where he graduated in 1939; and

17 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer, having graduated from high school, spent
18 a year and a half with the Civilian Conservation Corp, working at
19 Camp Maxy in Paris, Texas, and at an air base in Dodge City, Kansas.
20 Leon spent four years during World War II repairing ships and other
21 defense work in San Francisco, California; and

22 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer and his brother Lloyd built and operated
23 Sherrer's Restaurant in Durant, Oklahoma. The restaurant opened on
24 May 6, 1948, and the two brothers operated the establishment until

1 Lloyd died in 1965. After Lloyd's death, Leon bought his half of
2 the business which is now co-owned by Leon and his son Danny. The
3 restaurant is also known as Fideaux's. The restaurant is known for
4 grinding their own coffee and making their own pies. It has the
5 reputation for the best hamburgers, great chicken fried steak, and
6 good salads; and

7 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer devoted 18 years to the State of Oklahoma,
8 serving as Assistant Secretary of the Oklahoma School Land
9 Commission, as Deputy Director and then Director of Training and
10 Education for the Oklahoma Civil Defense Agency, now known as the
11 Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management; and

12 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer also devoted time and effort to local
13 government, serving two terms on the Durant City Council in the
14 1960s and is currently serving a second consecutive term during this
15 century. As a city councilman Leon has also fulfilled the role of
16 Mayor of Durant, Oklahoma; and

17 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer has also served on the Oklahoma State
18 Small Business Council and on the Board of the substate planning
19 district Southern Oklahoma Development Association (SODA). Leon has
20 been a Life Member and for the last 35 years a director of the
21 Oklahoma Restaurant Association and has been an active member of the
22 First Baptist Church of Durant, Oklahoma, since 1950. He has also
23 served on the Board of Directors of Durant Main Street; and

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1 WHEREAS, Leon Sherrer married Verta Bussell of Antlers,
2 Oklahoma, in 1949. He has two children, three grandchildren, and
3 two great-grandchildren; and

4 WHEREAS, House Bill 1769 of the 1st Session of the 52nd
5 Legislature provides that the business portion where State Highways
6 69 and 75 are one common merged highway in Bryan County from the
7 intersection of Weldon Drive and State Highway 69 north to Alabama
8 Street in Durant, Oklahoma, shall be designated the "Leon Sherrer
9 Highway".

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

12 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate acknowledges Leon Sherrer's
13 numerous and outstanding contributions to his community and state.

14 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors Leon Sherrer for his
15 continued contributions as a successful businessman, public servant,
16 participant in professional and local organizations, and as a
17 father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

18 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Leon Sherrer.

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