

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 57

By: Branan

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution praising Hobbes; wishing him well in his  
9 retirement; and directing distribution.

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11 WHEREAS, Hobbes is an approximately 13-year-old male service  
12 dog, half Chesapeake Bay Retriever and half Golden Retriever, who  
13 has served as an assistance dog for the past ten and one-half years  
14 to Senate staff member, Charles Israel. Hobbes was trained by Paws  
15 with a Cause in Wayland, Michigan, an organization which trains and  
16 provides assistance dogs nationally for people with disabilities,  
17 providing lifetime support and encouraging independence; and

18 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Senate staff and friends held an  
19 auction to pay for Hobbes. The auction raised in excess of \$20,000,  
20 which not only paid for Hobbes, but was able to assist in the  
21 purchase of service dogs for others in need; and

22 WHEREAS, Hobbes was welcomed by all as an integral member of the  
23 Senate family. Charles, however, refused to change his own first  
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1 name to "Calvin" in honor of the comic strip by the same title, as  
2 originally suggested by a fellow Senate staffer; and

3 WHEREAS, Charles adhered to the service dog guidelines that  
4 assistance dogs should not be petted, fed or distracted while  
5 working, but for the sake of diplomacy and public relations would  
6 allow it if an attractive young woman would ask to pet Hobbes; and

7 WHEREAS, Hobbes, following the behavioral patterns of fellow  
8 Oklahoma State Senate staffers, was always on the lookout for a free  
9 meal. Hobbes relished searching wastepaper baskets for nourishment  
10 rather than standing in long lines for snacks, a free breakfast, or  
11 a complementary lunch with his fellow Senate staffers; and

12 WHEREAS, Hobbes, after ten and one-half years of service to both  
13 Charles and the Oklahoma State Senate, has retired from Senate  
14 duties and enjoys more relaxing duties at home. Even in retirement,  
15 Hobbes is a devoted companion and consummate chick magnet.

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

18 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the dedication, loyalty,  
19 and hard work of Hobbes, who literally worked for dog treats and  
20 praise instead of a monetary reward.

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate wishes Hobbes the very best  
22 during his retirement from service on the Oklahoma State Senate  
23 staff.

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1        THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Hobbes and his  
2 human, Charles Israel.

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