

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 63

By: Sykes

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution praising the public service of Senator  
8 Wayne Holden; mourning his passing; and directing  
9 distribution.

10  
11 WHEREAS, Wayne Millard Holden was born to Ramon H. and Maudie  
12 Wilson Holden in Loco, Oklahoma, May 29, 1918. Wayne, the oldest of  
13 four children, started school at Mountain Grove, then attended  
14 school at Santa Fe, and then Loco before his father was transferred  
15 to Maud, Oklahoma. Wayne graduated from Maud High School and  
16 enrolled in East Central State where he met his wife Carolyn Marie  
17 Morgan; and

18 WHEREAS, Wayne and Carolyn moved to Duncan, Oklahoma, in 1941  
19 where Wayne found employment with Halliburton Oil Well Cementing  
20 Company. Wayne Holden continued as a Halliburton employee until  
21 1983; and

22 WHEREAS, it was Erle Halliburton who convinced Wayne to run for  
23 Mayor of Duncan in 1950, a position he held until 1962 when Holden  
24 was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives. After one

1 two-year term in the House, Wayne Holden was elected to the Oklahoma  
2 State Senate in 1964. He was the first freshman to ever chair the  
3 Oil and Gas Committee. During his 12 years as State Senator, he was  
4 Majority Whip for two of his three terms; and

5 WHEREAS, among the many accomplishments of Senator Wayne Holden  
6 were the introduction of a bill that exempts proceeds from profit-  
7 sharing plans from Oklahoma estate tax and a bill that exempts  
8 surviving spouses from the estate tax. His legislation created the  
9 State Fire Marshal's office, established the War Veterans Commission  
10 of Oklahoma, and founded the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. He  
11 sponsored legislation to build the Veterinary Diagnostic Center and  
12 Veterinary Teaching School, enlarged the University of Oklahoma  
13 College of Medicine, and created the University of Oklahoma Health  
14 Sciences Center. He proposed and passed legislation that  
15 successfully built the School of Dentistry in Oklahoma City and  
16 Osteopathic School in Tulsa; and

17 WHEREAS, Wayne Holden was again elected Mayor of Duncan,  
18 Oklahoma, in the 1980s and served two consecutive terms. Known to  
19 all as "The Mayor", he introduced the city charter still in use,  
20 created the municipal court system, established the Independent  
21 Electric System, and worked successfully to create Clear Creek Lake,  
22 Lake Fuqua, and Lake Humphreys; and

23 WHEREAS, Wayne Holden received many awards and official  
24 recognition for his service to the public. The Oklahoma Cattlemen's

1 Association, the Oklahoma Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association,  
2 the War Veterans Association, Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma  
3 Baptist University, the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association,  
4 the South Central Regional Energy Board, and the Stephens County Bar  
5 Association all recognized Wayne Holden's outstanding service and  
6 many contributions; and

7 WHEREAS, Wayne Holden died February 27, 2009, at the age of 90  
8 years. As Lieutenant Governor Jari Askins said in Executive Order  
9 2009-10, "Senator Holden was a true Oklahoman and a deeply committed  
10 public servant who loved the state of Oklahoma and its people".

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

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the outstanding and  
14 lengthy public service of Senator Wayne Holden whose influence has  
15 been felt not only in Duncan, Oklahoma, but throughout the entire  
16 State of Oklahoma.

17 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate joins the many family members and  
18 numerous friends of Senator Wayne Holden in mourning the passing of  
19 this dedicated public servant and offers its most sincere  
20 condolences.

21 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Holden  
22 family and the Stephens County Historical Museum.

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24 52-1-1884 THC 5/19/2009 10:24:08 AM