

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 9

By: Schulz

4 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the Oklahoma
5 Department of Transportation for 100 years of service
6 to the citizens of Oklahoma; declaring 2011
7 "Transportation Year," and encouraging all citizens
8 to celebrate Oklahoma's many transportation
9 accomplishments; and directing distribution.

10 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Legislature has declared it to be the
11 policy of the State of Oklahoma that safe, adequate and efficient
12 transportation facilities constructed at a reasonable cost to the
13 citizens are essential to the economic growth of our state and the
14 well-being of its people; and

15 WHEREAS, Oklahomans have pioneered many commonly accepted
16 features of modern transportation including community involvement in
17 the location and design of highways; the yield sign; the parking
18 meter; the space suit and the electronic Pikepass; and

19 WHEREAS, the development and expansion of Route 66, and
20 Interstates 35, 40 and 44 during the past 100 years has allowed
21 Oklahoma to be known as the "Crossroads of America"; and

22 WHEREAS, the State Highway Department was created by House Bill
23 No. 318 approved on March 16, 1911 and became effective June 15 of
24 that year; and

1 WHEREAS, Sydney Suggs, the first State Highway Commissioner,
2 laid the groundwork for good highways in Oklahoma that is still
3 being carried on today by the State Transportation Commission; and

4 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 44 approved on March 14, 1924,
5 established the first three-member State Highway Commission to
6 oversee the State Highway Department and provide for construction
7 and maintenance of a connected system of state highways; and

8 WHEREAS, the first chairman of the State Highway Commission was
9 Cyrus S. Avery of Tulsa, who is known as the Father of Route 66 and
10 who helped create the nation's highway numbering system; and

11 WHEREAS, the modern Oklahoma Department of Transportation was
12 created by House Bill No. 1791 approved June 8, 1976, with
13 responsibilities to develop a comprehensive transportation plan
14 including highways, public transportation, railroads, waterways and
15 aeronautics; and

16 WHEREAS, transportation funding was modernized in House Bill No.
17 1078, approved June 9, 2005, which changed funding trends for roads
18 and bridges by creating the Rebuilding Oklahoma Access and Driver
19 Safety Fund; and

20 WHEREAS, the change in funding trends was continued with House
21 Bill No. 1176, approved June 27, 2006, which created the High
22 Priority State Bridge Revolving Fund, and with House Bill No. 2272,
23 approved June 2, 2008, which increased funding limits, providing a
24 consistent, long-term funding solution; and

1 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation continues its
2 commitment to the public of improving the state's highways,
3 interstates and intermodal system of railroads, waterways and
4 transit.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
6 OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 CONCURRING THEREIN:

8 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature declares 2011 to be
9 "Transportation Year," congratulates the Oklahoma Department of
10 Transportation for one hundred years of service to the citizens of
11 Oklahoma and encourages all citizens to celebrate Oklahoma's many
12 transportation accomplishments.

13 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor,
14 the Secretary of Transportation, Mr. Gary Ridley, Mr. Dan B.
15 Overland, Chairman of the Transportation Commission, Mr. James H.
16 Dunegan, Vice-Chairman, and Transportation Commission members Mr.
17 Carlisle Mabrey, III, Mr. Jackie R. Cooper, Mr. Loyd Benson, Mr.
18 Bruce Benbrook, Mr. Bradley W. Burgess, and Mr. Peter J. Regan.

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