

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 19

By: Brecheen and Ellis of the
Senate

and

Roan of the House

4
5
6
7 A Concurrent Resolution expressing condolences with
8 respect to those killed or injured in the Tushka
9 tornado; and expressing gratitude to all who assisted
10 victims in the aftermath.

11 WHEREAS, April 2011 will go down in weather history as one of
12 the most violent and tragic ever, with more than 450 tornadoes and
13 more than 6,500 severe weather reports nationwide; and

14 WHEREAS, the town of Tushka, Oklahoma, was devastated by one of
15 these storms on April 14, during which an EF3 tornado caused
16 extensive suffering and property damage, resulting in the deaths of
17 sisters Sammie Lee Dement and Ava Walkup and injuries to many other
18 residents, leveling 149 homes and damaging dozens of other
19 structures, including a school building built in 1918; and

20 WHEREAS, even before the storm clouds dissipated, the Oklahoma
21 spirit kicked in to help the families and businesses of Tushka.
22 Volunteers immediately provided food, water, clothing and medical
23 care to those affected. Friends and neighbors took in those
24 families left homeless and helped remove debris, board up

1 structures, and reopen homes and businesses. The Kiamichi
2 Technology Center - Atoka Campus and the Tushka Baptist Church
3 opened their doors to welcome the students and faculty of the Tushka
4 Public School System ensuring the completion of the 2010-2011
5 academic year. Countless Oklahomans have contributed their time and
6 treasure and will continue to help Tushkans in the days and months
7 of restoration that are still ahead; and

8 WHEREAS, while the Oklahoma spring weather will always wreak its
9 havoc, it is a comfort to our citizens to know that Oklahoma
10 families, friends, neighbors, local churches, nonprofit
11 organizations, businesses, and governmental and tribal agencies will
12 be ever present in times of trouble.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
14 OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15 CONCURRING THEREIN:

16 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate hereby expresses its condolences
17 to the families and friends of Sammie Lee Dement and Ava Walkup and
18 those injured in the Tushka tornado of 2011, and expresses its
19 gratitude to all who assisted victims in the aftermath of the
20 tornado and all who will continue to give assistance in the days to
21 follow.

22
23
24

1 Adopted by the Senate the 4th day of May, 2011.

2
3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2011.

7
8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives