

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 59

By: Sharp

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution honoring the life and career of retired
8 Oklahoma City Assistant Fire Chief and Public
9 Information Officer Jon Hansen; expressing gratitude
10 for his voice of compassion and reassurance after the
11 Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing; extending
12 condolences to the Hansen family; declaring April 23,
13 2016, as "Jon Hansen Day" in Oklahoma; and directing
14 distribution.

15 WHEREAS, Jon Hansen was born at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
16 in Oceanside, California in 1951 before his family moved to Oklahoma
17 City; and

18 WHEREAS, he graduated from Northeast High School in Oklahoma
19 City and studied at Oklahoma State University and the University of
20 Central Oklahoma; and

21 WHEREAS, Hansen began his 26-year career with the Oklahoma City
22 Fire Department in November 1973 promoting through the ranks to
23 become Fire Marshal in 1995. As Assistant Fire Chief, he served as
24 the department's Public Information Officer; and

WHEREAS, after the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Bombing on
April 19, 1995, Hansen kept the public informed by routinely giving

1 updates to local, national and international media outlets about the
2 tragic event and what was being done to help the victims and protect
3 the public; and

4 WHEREAS, he was a voice of strength, comfort, compassion and
5 reassurance when terror struck the heartland, letting the world know
6 that we had been wounded but that we would persevere and could never
7 be defeated; and

8 WHEREAS, when tragedy struck Oklahoma again on May 3, 1999,
9 Hansen once again worked around the clock for days providing updates
10 to the local and national media about the deadly tornado that
11 damaged and destroyed thousands of homes in Moore and South Oklahoma
12 City including his own; and

13 WHEREAS, after his retirement in July 1999, Hansen continued to
14 serve the fire service in various capacities including serving as
15 the executive director of Oklahoma's Council of Firefighter Training
16 at the time of his death; and

17 WHEREAS, he was nominated by President George W. Bush in April
18 2002 to head the U.S. Fire Administration, but asked that his name
19 be withdrawn so he could spend more time with his family; and

20 WHEREAS, after a long battle with cancer, Hansen passed away on
21 Friday, April 15, 2016, at his home with his family by his side.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
23 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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1 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the life and career of
2 retired Oklahoma City Assistant Fire Chief and Public Information
3 Officer Jon Hansen.

4 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate expresses gratitude for his voice
5 of compassion and reassurance for Oklahomans after the Alfred P.
6 Murrah Federal Building bombing.

7 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate extends condolences to the Hansen
8 family.

9 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate declares April 23, 2016, as "Jon
10 Hansen" Day in Oklahoma.

11 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his son, Cory;
12 daughter, Jill; sisters, Norene and Kathy; niece Annie and brother-
13 in-law Randy.

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