

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 8

By: Johnson (Constance),
Aldridge, Allen, Anderson,
Ballenger, Barrington,
Bass, Bingman, Boggs,
Branan, Brecheen, Brinkley,
Brooks, Brown, Burrage,
Coates, Crain, Dahm, David,
Ellis, Fields, Ford,
Garrison, Griffin,
Halligan, Holt, Ivester,
Johnson (Rob), Jolley,
Justice, Loveless, Marlatt,
Mazzei, McAffrey, Newberry,
Paddack, Schulz, Sharp,
Shaw, Shortey, Shumate,
Simpson, Sparks,
Standridge, Stanislawski,
Sykes, Treat and Wyrick of
the Senate

and

Pittman and Shelton of the
House

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing March 2013
through March 2014 as the Centennial Celebration Year
of the life and work of Ralph Waldo Ellison; and
directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Ralph Waldo Ellison, an internationally renowned writer
and one of the most celebrated figures in American literature, was
born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on March 1, 1913; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Waldo Ellison was the author of the 1953 National
Book Award-winning novel "Invisible Man"; numerous short stories;

1 essays on jazz, literature, and American culture collected in
2 "Shadow and Act" and "Going to the Territory"; and his posthumous
3 novels "Juneteenth" and "Three Days Before the Shooting"; and

4 WHEREAS, Ralph Waldo Ellison, also an accomplished sculptor,
5 musician, photographer and college professor, was awarded the
6 Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969, and the National Medal of
7 Arts in 1985. His hometown honored him in 1975 with the dedication
8 of the Ralph Ellison Library in Oklahoma City; and

9 WHEREAS, the Ralph Ellison Centennial Committee is working to
10 honor the memory and legacy of this famed literary treasure's life
11 March 2013 through March 2014 via a series of public events
12 throughout Oklahoma City and the State of Oklahoma, and the
13 establishment of a variety of Ralph Ellison memorials and archives
14 that will live on beyond the centennial celebration; and

15 WHEREAS, community partners will work collaboratively and
16 individually to organize public events in a variety of venues to
17 celebrate Ralph Ellison and his influence in raising awareness of
18 the contributions of African Americans to America's national
19 identity, and the idea that embracing one's culture is the way to
20 personal freedom.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
22 OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
23 CONCURRING THEREIN:
24

1 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes March 2013 through
2 March 2014 as the Centennial Celebration Year of the life and work
3 of Ralph Waldo Ellison.

4 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Ralph
5 Ellison Library in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

6 Adopted by the Senate the 28th day of February, 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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10 Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
11 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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