

1 WHEREAS, the International Petroleum Exposition (IPE) continued
2 to be held in Tulsa to educate workers and the public and serve as a
3 marketplace for new equipment; and

4 WHEREAS, at the 1953 IPE, the first "Golden Driller" was put on
5 display by the Mid-Continent Supply Company. The Texas company
6 returned in 1959 with a second temporary driller statue; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1966, the Golden Driller was permanently installed,
8 and the IPE had the largest attendance in the event's history; and

9 WHEREAS, with an arm resting on an oil derrick and standing at
10 76 feet and weighing 43,500 pounds, the towering Golden Driller
11 statue became a Tulsa landmark and was named the state monument in
12 1979; and

13 WHEREAS, the Golden Driller was modeled after Sapulpa resident
14 John Franklin Stephens Jr., who was 29 at the time and served as the
15 superintendent of the Golden Driller Project; and

16 WHEREAS, the Driller was dedicated to the men of the petroleum
17 industry and serves as a reminder of Oklahoma's rich history in the
18 oil and gas industry.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
20 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
21 CONCURRING THEREIN:

22 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the history and
23 tourism behind the state monument, the Golden Driller.
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1 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the contributions
2 of the oil and gas industry to the state's economy and history.

3 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the role of John
4 Franklin Stephens Jr. in the design and construction of the Golden
5 Driller.

6 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Tulsa
7 Historical Society, Oklahoma History Center, Tulsa Expo Square, and
8 The Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma.

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10 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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