

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 15

By: Kidd

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution honoring the life of Navy veteran
Delbert D. Black; recognizing the historic career of
MCPON Black; sharing appreciation for his service;
and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Delbert D. Black was born in Orr, Oklahoma, in 1922 and
enlisted in the United States Navy in March 1941; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Black completed recruit training in San
Diego, California, and was then assigned to the USS Maryland (BB-
46), which he was aboard during the December 7, 1941, attack on
Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Master Chief Black was named the first Senior
Enlisted Advisor of the Navy, a title later changed to Master Chief
Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON); and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Black was the highest-ranking enlisted
member of the Navy and served as the enlisted liaison to the Chief
of Naval Operations, focusing on guidance, leadership, and policy;
and

1 WHEREAS, Master Chief Delbert D. Black retired in 1971 but
2 continued his involvement in the Navy through various organizations;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Master Chief Black was laid to rest in Arlington
5 National Cemetery after passing away in March 2000 and has since had
6 a combatant ship and exhibit named in his honor, the USS Delbert D.
7 Black (DDG-119).

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
9 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

10 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the life and extraordinary
11 military career of Navy veteran Delbert D. Black.

12 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes the historic career
13 and achievements of Master Chief Black.

14 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate extends sincere appreciation for
15 his outstanding service to our country.

16 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to MCPON Black's
17 family and the United States Navy Chief Petty Officer Mess.

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