

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

By: Wesselhoft and Bennet

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution expressing gratitude to the President and the United States military for bringing justice to Osama bin Laden.

WHEREAS, the unalienable rights that we as Americans believe have been endowed by our Creator- life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness- are at times imperiled by those, such as Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda, who fear freedom and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Osama bin Laden's September 11, 2001, attack against the United States resulted in the loss of over 3,000 American lives at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, since that fateful day our great country has lost more than 6,000 veterans in our post- 9/11 wars with over 50,000 veterans wounded and disabled; and

WHEREAS, after 10 years since 9/11 in which bin Laden had been able to evade what amounted to the largest manhunt in international history, he was finally found by U.S. forces in a city just outside the capital city of Pakistan; and

WHEREAS, Osama bin Laden led the organization which committed the attacks of September 11, 2001, as well as the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole and the bombing of two embassies in Africa; and

WHEREAS, bin Laden eluded justice for many years despite being hunted by the United States military and intelligence forces; and

WHEREAS, the al Qaeda leader was brought to justice by the direction and orders of President Barack Obama and a dedicated team of technically proficient U.S. Navy Seals and others; and

WHEREAS, this victory was made possible due to the efforts and shared sacrifices of citizens of the United States and many other nations, encompassing the administrations of President Barack Obama and former presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton; and

WHEREAS, due to the heroism and tenacity of the United States military and intelligence forces, bin Laden received the justice he so richly deserved on May 1, 2011. In a daring raid, United States Special Operations forces identified and killed bin Laden; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of our active military personnel, our veterans who served with distinction and valor, and countless other Oklahomans who have served in the war against terror, are deeply appreciated and will not be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, the victims of bin Laden's terrorism now have a measure of justice and all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women who risk their lives to capture and kill the terrorists who have attacked our country and threatened the American way of life.

WHEREAS, the demise of Osama bin Laden closes a chapter of the war on terrorism but does not end that war; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT President Barack Obama, commander-in-chief of the United States Military, along with those assisting with intelligence efforts to track down Osama bin Laden, be commended for their determination and deliberative efforts to hunt down and successfully bring to justice what was the greatest terrorist threat to our nation, Osama bin Laden.

THAT all current and former members of the United States Armed Forces be recognized for their efforts and sacrifices to end the war on terror currently facing world citizens.

THAT all persons, living and deceased, who have been affected by the terrorist activities of Osama bin Laden be remembered with a moment of silence and reflection by the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives expresses its gratitude to all whose efforts resulted in justice for Osama bin

Laden, and to all who continue to strive for justice and peace in all parts of our world.

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